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MEMORANDUM

Regarding

Testimony of Harry Haler

Harry Haler appeared as a witness before the Subcommittee on the Assassination of John F. Kennedy on Thursday, March 16, 1978, at which time the veracity of his testimony was seriously questioned by several Members of the Subcommittee due to certain internal inconsistencies in his presentation and specific variances with a previous statement given to Federal agents on November 30, 1963 at the Terminal Island Federal Institution, Los Angeles, California.

This memorandum contains several gross examples illustrating the problems inherent in accepting Haler's testimony which the Committee Members might wish to pursue during Haler's next appearance under oath.

ISSUE I - When did Harry Haler first meet Jack Ruby?

A. Previous Statement

1. November 30, 1963

S/A Nolan and S/S Spaman

- First met Ruby in latter part of 1952-53 in Dallas through Marty Schwartz (Field).

vs.

2. Testimony

p.11 - Met Ruby in Chicago when Haler was 16-17 years old during 1950 or '52.

pp.56-57 - Met Ruby in Chicago through Marty Field - "anywhere from 16-18 years old."

ISSUE II - What was the last date of contact between Harry Haler and Jack Ruby?

A. Previous Statement

1. November 30, 1963

S/A Nolan to S/S Spaman

- No direct contact with Ruby since 1955
- Visit in '62 to Carousel Club but Ruby not in town.

vs.

2. Testimony

p.52 a) Last contact with Ruby 1958-59.

pp.53-63 b) Not in Dallas after 1958; does not recall visiting Carousel.

p.59 c) FBI report re 1955 incorrect

- p.70 d) Did not see Ruby in 1959-60 due to relationship with Truman Gibson, Jr.
- pp.75- e) Possibly saw Ruby after 1961.
77-
*83

ISSUE III - Did Harry Haler discuss John F. Kennedy and/or Robert Kennedy with Jack Ruby?

A. Testimonial

Quote at issue:

p.24 Mr. Haler: He was the most fanatical person I ever seen about the Kennedys. I never seen anything like it in my life. We nearly came to blows. He loved the Kennedys so much. If you said anything about them he would want to fight you. He was just a -- just loved them like somebody would love Babe Ruth or something. Because one time I told him what I thought of Bobby Kennedy and he just jumped up like he was going to fight with me. But I think I kind of convinced him, so he didn't do it.

Relevance:

If Jack Ruby was "fanatical...about the Kennedys" to the point of offering to fight over a derogatory statement concerning Robert Kennedy, and Haler was able to convince Ruby that the derogatory information was

true, then the information per se and the underlying circumstances relating to that information are relevant to:

- (1) Jack Ruby's true state of mind and feelings concerning the Kennedys, and
- (2) the credibility of Halder as his testimony relates to the time he last had contact with Ruby and the nature and extent of those contacts.

B. Previous Statement

- (1) November 30, 1963; JFK exhibit #81

S/A Nolan and S/S Spaman

-Halder's statement makes no mention of Jack Ruby's feelings toward the Kennedys and the only reference to Ruby's state of mind is the following:

"Hall(Halder) advised that it was his opinion from his contacts and knowledge of Ruby that Ruby had some strong motivation for his shooting of Lee Harvey Oswald and that the only motivation that he, Hall, could contribute to Ruby was money or the fear that Oswald possibly might involve Ruby in the assassination of the President of the U.S. He admitted this was pure speculation on his part and made the offer that he would be willing

to go to Dallas, Texas and meet Ruby and he was sure that from such a meeting that he could learn from Ruby what motivated him to shoot and kill Oswald."

- (2) JFK exhibit 82 - U.S.S.S. Report re 11/30/63 interview; p. 3.

"He (Hall) said he could not conceive of Ruby doing anything out of patriotism."

"...he stated that he was close enough to Ruby... that...he could persuade him to tell the whole story."

C. Testimony at 3/16/78 hearing

- (1) p. 60 - J.R. loved the Kennedy family;"...absolutely adored them."
- (2) p. 61 - JFK "...was the President of the United States and he was the first Catholic elected... ."
- (3) p. 24 - "...the most fanatical person I ever seen about the Kennedys. ... We nearly came to blows. He loved the Kennedys so much. If you said anything about them he would want to fight you."

Did Haler tell Jack Ruby about his antipathy for
RFK?

A. Previous Statements -

FBI and U.S.S.S. reports: no reference

B. 3/16/78 hearing

1. p. 24 - Ruby started to fight when Hall said negative things about R.F.K.; Haler: "But I think I kind of convinced him, so he didn't do it."
2. p. 62 - Haler "sure" Ruby knew of his antipathy for R.F.K.
3. p. 62 Around time of inauguration.
4. p. 62 "...could have had to do when he was running against the fellow from Tennessee. ...when he lost out as vice president."
5. p. 74 - Haler's dislike was generated by RFK's activities as Attorney General; p. 75 - not because of the Hoffa probe, or, p. 76 - because of Ruby or teamsters.

6. p. 83 - Haler's dislike began around time he was indicted.
7. p. 88 - Haler "...got in a very terrible squabble with him on the Marilyn Monroe issue, if I have to bring it up ... because I was friendly with Joe DiMaggio at the time."
8. p. 88 - Called RFK from Mexico City "...a week or two..." before Haler's Federal indictment, in 1962.
9. p. 90 - Haler broke with RFK earlier than the phone call from Mexico, when he "knew" RFK "...wouldn't go to bat..." for him on that indictment.
10. p. 93 - Haler then says his break with RFK started before that, when he "...went to him and asked him if he would consider someone for a Federal judgeship..", "... after his brother was elected..." when he thought RFK "...was (p. 94) going to be Attorney General."

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Goal #2 To determine Hall's involvement with and knowledge of Organized Crime.

Goal #3 To determine whether Harry Hall had knowledge of Jack Ruby's involvement with Organized Crime, or obtained knowledge of Jack Ruby's shooting of Lee Harvey Oswald.

- Exhibits
1. FBI interview of Harry Hall, dated November 30, 1963.
 2. Secret Service interview of Harry Hall, dated November 30, 1963.
 3. FBI report regarding an incident between Jack Ruby and Vincent Lee, Branch Manager, American Guild of Variety Artists.

Chronology - Antonio de Varona

Goal #1 Background

Goal #1 To determine Antonio de Varona's role in the activities of Central Intelligence Agency-sponsored and privately funded anti-Castro Cuban groups, including all assassination attempts.

Goal #2 Background

Goal #2 To determine de Varona's role in the CIA/Mafia Castro assassination plots and to determine de Varona's relationship to and involvement with organized crime figures.

PROCEDURE
KENNEDY SUBCOMMITTEE HEARINGS

1. The Chairman should recognize Elizabeth Berning, Clerk of the Committee, to read for the record those Members who are officially designated to be on the Subcommittee today, pursuant to Committee Rule 12.3.

2. The hearing should go into Executive Session.

There should be a motion:

that today's hearing and one subsequent day of hearing be held in Executive Session since on the basis of information obtained by the Committee, the Committee believes the evidence or testimony may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate people, and consequently Section 2(K) (5) of Rule 11 of the Rules of the House and Committee Rule 3.3 (5), require such hearings be in Executive Session.

There must be three Members present to vote on this motion.

A rollcall vote should be taken.

3. The Chairman should swear the witness at this time. He should state that he understands a copy of our Rules have already been given to the witness. He should ask the witness if this is true. The Chairman should

state that the witness is appearing pursuant to subpoena.

4. The Chairman should give a brief statement concerning the subject of the investigation. He should state that House Resolution 222 mandates the Committee

"to conduct a full and complete investigation and study of the circumstances surrounding the assassination and death of President John F. Kennedy including determining whether the existing laws of the United States concerning the protection of the President and the investigatory jurisdiction and capability of agencies and departments are adequate in their provisions and enforcement, and whether there was full disclosure of evidence and information among agencies and departments of the United States Government, and whether any evidence or information not in the possession of an agency or department would have been of assistance in investigating the assassination, and why such information was not provided or collected by that agency or department, . . . and to make recommendations to the House . . . if the Select Committee deems it appropriate for the amendment

of existing legislation or the enactment of new legislation.

5. The questioning of the witness may now proceed.

Fifth Amendment

6. If the witness takes the Fifth Amendment to a question, and the Committee desires to immunize the witness, the Chairman should give the witness a copy of Judge Bryant's order immunizing the witness and compelling testimony from him. The witness should now be directed to answer the question that was propounded.

If the Witness Continues to Object

7. Pursuant to Committee Rule 3.5, any objection of the witness or witness' counsel must be specifically ruled upon by the Chairman. Should the witness object on the grounds of pertinency, he should be given a brief explanation of the pertinency of the question and then be directed to answer it.

8. At the conclusion of the questioning of the witness, pursuant to Rule 3.6 of the Committee, the Chairman should offer the witness and/or his counsel five minutes to explain or amplify the witness' testimony.

9. The witness should be informed that he is under the continuing subpoena of the Committee, and subject to the call of the Chair at a future date.

BIOGRAPHY

Harry Hall

AKA Harry Helfgot
Harry Halfgott
Harry Hunt
Harry Mills
Sidney Brin
Harry Sinclair, Jr.
Ed Pauley, Jr.

Harry Hall, a reputed confidence man and gambler, has an extensive arrest record dating from 1942. Hall's arrests range from gambling, grand theft robbery, forgery, and conspiracy to commit robbery and forgery.

During 1950, Hall became a paid informant, providing information at various times to the IRS, Department of Justice, FBI, Secret Service, Department of Treasury Intelligence Division, and Los Angeles Police Department Intelligence Division. Hall provided information to the Secret Service which resulted in the seizure of a counterfeiting plant. Information provided to IRS Intelligence resulted in several indictments for income tax evasion.

Hall attempted to further his own schemes as a confidence man through his association with the various law enforcement agencies. On occasion when Hall met known criminals under Federal investigation, he would allude to alleged important contacts with Federal agencies and could obtain information that would benefit their cases. Through these confidence schemes, Hall became acquainted with known organized crime figures and associates of organized crime figures.

During 1952, Hall was in Dallas (using the name Harry Sinclair, Jr.) looking for high stake gambling games and to place bets on football games or horse races. Hall's uncle, Marty Fields (alias Marty Schwartz), introduced Hall to Jack Ruby. At that time Ruby ran a small, cheap bar and nightclub in Dallas.

Hall's method of operation at that time was to use the name of a well-known person and ingratiate himself with persons with money. On occasion, Ruby provided Hall with a bankroll and introduced him to likely victims. Ruby got forty percent of any deal and Hall took sixty percent. Ruby's cut was for his influence with the Dallas Police Department. During the course of their relationship, Hall and Ruby obtained large sums of money from wealthy oilmen, including H. L. Hunt, Dick Andrade and gamblers in the Dallas area. Their activities extended beyond the Dallas area including Montreal, Shreveport, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Oklahoma City.

The following identification of Harry Hall was obtained from an FBI report:

Date of Birth: January 3 or 13, 1919
Place of Birth: Chicago, Illinois
Sex: Male
Race: White
Height: 5'11"
Weight: 205 pounds
Hair: Brown
Eyes: Brown
Complexion: Faintly pock-marked, cheeks stocky.
Gait: Walks with a limp, has deformed right ankle.
Handwriting: Right-handed
Occupation: Salesman
FBI Numer: 2956-393
Social Security Number: 358-10-2658
Los Angeles P.D. Number: H 111887
Spouse: Betty Hall

To determine Hall's involvement in and knowledge of illegal activities.

Nature and extent of Hall's involvement in illegal activities

1. Gambling - bookmaking setups
2. Confidence schemes
3. Nonsufficient funds
4. Grand theft robbery
5. Forgery

Between 1942 and 1966, Hall was arrested on nine separate occasions on charges of Nonsufficient Funds, Gambling, Grand Theft, Robbery, Forgery, and Conspiracy to Commit Robbery and Forgery. On January 18, 1955, Hall was convicted of Forgery in Los Angeles and sentenced (on April 14, 1955) to 1-14 years; Hall was paroled from the California Institution for Men at Chino on April 23, 1956. On September 14, 1966, Hall was arrested as Harry Mills in Los Angeles on charges of using White House stationery and the name of Jack Valenti in a scheme to sell surplus military equipment.

About February 1, 1960, Harry Hall, using the name of Sidney Brin, was employed as an investigator by Truman K. Gibson, Jr., an attorney from Chicago. Gibson was under indictment for Anti-Racketeering violations. In the course of his employment, Hall prepared (or caused to be prepared) false documents, purporting to be authored by officials of the Justice Department, indicating the charges against Gibson would be dismissed. Hall was indicted on April 4, 1962 for False Personation of a Federal Officer, Obstruction of Justice, and Fraud by Wire. On October 1, 1962, Hall was convicted of Obstruction of Justice and Fraud by Wire and sentenced to 30 months.

To determine Hall's involvement with and knowledge of Organized Crime.

A. Nature and extent of Hall's relationship with known Organized Crime figures and associates of known Organized Crime figures.

1. Truman K. Gibson
2. Mike Coppola
3. George Beckley

Truman K. Gibson, Jr.

An attorney from Chicago, Ill. and a former executive of the National Boxing Enterprises, Inc. and the International Boxing Clubs of New York and Illinois. Gibson was indicted in Los Angeles, on September 22, 1959 with Paul John "Frankie" Corbo, Frank "Blinky" Palermo, Joseph Sica, and Louis Tom Dragna, for conspiracy to violate the Anti-Racketeering Statutes, by extorting control of the then-world's welterweight boxing champion Don Jordan from his licensed manager. All defendants were found guilty on May 30, 1961.

Michael Coppola - "Trigger Mike"

New York gangster. Coppola was part of the Lucky Luciano organization; he shared the leadership when Luciano was incarcerated in 1939.

George Lee Beckley

Newport, Kentucky. Allegedly owns a federal wagering tax stamp. Beckley does not consider himself a bookmaker, but merely a commission man handling action from bookmakers all over the country.

B. Nature and extent of Hall's connections with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Union and individuals connected with it.

1. Business dealings with James R. Hoffa; personal relationship with Hoffa.
2. Discussions and/or meetings with Paul Dorfman regarding offer to Hall to collect derogatory information on the Kennedy family. Knowledge of Ruby's association and/or contacts with Dorfman.
3. Knowledge of and relationship with Barney Baker. Knowledge of Ruby's association and/or contact with Baker.
4. Knowledge of and relationship with Irwin Weiner.

James R. Hoffa

Former President of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. Hoffa disappeared in August, 1975.

Paul Dorfman

A major figure in the Chicago underworld and labor unions, Dorfman allegedly introduced Hoffa to the Chicago underworld. Grew up with Jack Ruby.

Robert Baker AKA "Barney"

Served as Jimmy Hoffa's "roving organizer and ambassador of violence". Baker was regarded as one of Hoffa's key lieutenants, particularly in dealing with the Mafia. Baker called Ruby on November 7 and 8, 1963. Baker called Dave Yaras on November 21, 1963. Yaras is allegedly a top syndicate gambler with Teamster and Cuban connections. He is also considered the Miami representative to the Chicago Mob.

Irwin Weiner

7345 North Damen, Chicago, Illinois

AKA "Stucky" A Teamster bondsman. During 1959 he operated American Bail Bond Company and was president of Summit Fidelity and Surety Company. Weiner served as a top Hoffa advisor. Ruby called Weiner October 26, 1963 and talked for 12 minutes.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

During an FBI interview on June 14, 1961, Hall said he was first introduced into the circle of nationally known individuals involved in criminal activities by Truman K. Gibson, Jr. In 1960, Gibson stated in Miami that Hall had formerly been connected with the Internal Revenue Service and had good sources of information within the government.

Hall stated he was recommended to Mike Coppola by Jim Norris to assist Coppola following his indictment for income tax evasion. Hall met with Coppola twice in 1961. The first meeting was around Easter in New York City, to discuss the charges against Coppola. After the meeting Hall met Marty Weiss, who he claims is Coppola's money man in New York. During May, Hall stopped at O'Hare Airport in Chicago and transported \$7,500 in currency to Coppola in Miami from Weiss. Hall advised the FBI that Coppola told him that if he helped in the matter, Hall would get a good deal involving a trip to Rome. Hall claimed the deal would involve "carrying something over to talk to the 'Boys', one of whom he was to attempt to arrange to get back into the United States on a legitimate basis."

Coppola introduced Hall to George Lee Beckley, a gambler who was also having tax difficulties. When Hall met with Beckley in Newport, Kentucky, Beckley expressed an interest in determining whether gamblers were to be called before grand juries and whether the IRS was interested in

him. Beckley arranged a \$25,000 line of credit at the Sands Hotel, Las Vegas, and gave Hall a telephone credit card in the name of Sidney Brin.

During an FBI interview on June 7, 1961, Hall said he set up a betting account for Beckley through Allied Meat Company, 3311 North Main, Los Angeles. Beckley thought he was getting the "lay off" (when there is an imbalance in betting, a bookmaker will distribute the unbalanced portion of the bets to even the books), but Hall was giving him straight bets.

To determine whether Harry Hall had knowledge of Jack Ruby's involvement with Organized Crime, or obtained knowledge of Jack Ruby's shooting of Lee Harvey Oswald.

Line of Questioning

- A. Nature and extent of Harry Hall's association with Jack Ruby or Ruby-controlled criminal activities.
1. Gambling
 2. Prostitution
 3. Narcotics
 4. Liquor
- B. Determine validity of alleged swindles of oilmen, including H. L. Hunt and Dick Andrade.
- C. Knowledge of Ruby's activities in the Dallas area, Chicago, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Montreal, Oklahoma City, San Francisco, New Orleans, Shreveport, and Morgan City.
1. Alleged connections between Ruby and Chicago Organized Crime figures.
 2. Alleged connections between Ruby and Paul Dorfman.
 3. Alleged connections between Ruby and Joe Campisi.
 4. Alleged connections between Ruby and Santo Trafficante and Sam Giancana.
- D. Nature and extent of Hall's and/or Ruby's involvement with specific individuals.
1. James Henry Dolan
 2. Vincent Lee
 3. Dewey Groom

4. Paul Rowland Jones
5. Lewis J. McWillie
6. Laurence Meyers
7. Norman Rothman
8. Alex Gruber
9. Ralph Paul
10. Nofio Pecora
11. Russell D. Matthews
12. Joe Civello
13. Carlos Marcello
14. Vincent Marcello
15. Peter Guarisco

1. James Henry Dolan

Dolan, who is presently incarcerated in the Federal Penitentiary in Atlanta, Georgia, became the Dallas representative for the American Guild of Variety Artists (AGVA) in 1957 following his release from Leavenworth Prison. Due to his background and position with the union, Dolan quickly became familiar with the local clubs which included the Carousel owned by Jack Ruby and the operation of the Dallas "street scene". His personal relationship with Ruby and individuals intimately involved in the gambling business in Dallas afforded him an opportunity to form an opinion as to Ruby's alleged involvement with Organized Crime.

2. Vincent Lee

In 1953, Lee was Branch Manager of AGVA in Dallas. On August 11, FBI Special Agent Ralph Miles was ("chanced to be") in the office on "official business" and witnessed a confrontation between Lee and Jack Ruby over supplying entertainment. Ruby implicitly threatened Lee with a reference to his gun.

Lee later gave SA Miles information regarding Ruby's view that he was a tough character and of his associations with Joe Bonds and James Robert Todd. Lee said all three hung out around Sue's Used Car Lot. (HSCA Exhibit 3)

3. Dewey Groom

Owner of the Longhorn Ranch Nightclub, Dallas, Texas. Groom was an associate and former employee of Jack Ruby. During an FBI interview, Ruby lists Groom as one of his closest friends.

4. Paul Rowland Jones

Close associate of Jack Ruby; met through two mutual friends - Paul "Needle Nose" Labriola and Jim Weinberg. Jones was convicted in the late 1940's of opium smuggling and an attempt to bribe Sheriff Guthrie of Dallas. 1942-1946, Jones was a member of the Chicago Syndicate; moved to Dallas in 1947. Considered to be the czar of the Dallas Syndicate, which included Paul Labriola, Lipsky, and Jack Knappi, a cousin of "Jack Ketti, well-known Chicago hoodlum". Jones saw Ruby on November 12 and 13, 1963. On the 13th, Gruber was also at the meeting.

5. Lewis J. McWillie

Friend and associate of Jack Ruby. In 1959, McWillie managed the Tropicana Casino in Havana, then owned by Norman Rothman of Chicago. In 1960, McWillie worked as a pit boss at the Capri in Havana, and in 1961, McWillie left Cuba to work at the Cal-Neva Lodge in Nevada. McWillie may have had associations with Trafficante, Giancana and Roselli.

6. Lawrence Meyers

Chicago, Illinois. A personal friend and associate of Jack Ruby. During October, 1963, Meyers attended the Dallas State Fair with Jack Ruby. On November 20, 1963, Meyers flew to Dallas with Jean West. They stayed at the Ramada Inn on the night of the 20th and checked into the Cabana Motel on the morning of November 21, 1963. After dinner on the 21st he went to the Carousel Club; around midnight on the 21st Meyer met with his brother and his wife, Miss West and Jack Ruby at the bar in the Cabana Motel.

7. Norman Rothman

An organized crime figure. Operated a casino in Cuba prior to 1959 and offered to assassinate Castro in 1961 -- which FBI declined. Associate of Trafficante and Sam Benton.

8. Frank Alexander Gruber - Los Angeles, California

A boyhood friend of Jack Ruby. Gruber visited Ruby in Dallas from November 11-13, 1963. Ruby called Gruber at his Los Angeles home 20 minutes after the news of the assassination was out on November 22, 1963.

9. Ralph Paul

Owner of the Bull Penn Drive Inn, Arlington, Texas. Paul was a close personal friend and business associate of Jack Ruby.

10. Nofio Pecora

An alleged manager for Carlos Marcello for gambling and prostitution activities. On October 30, 1963, Pecora received a telephone call from a phone routinely used by Jack Ruby. Also the brother-in-law of D'Alton Smith, an associate of Carlos Marcello.

11. Russell Douglas Matthews

Hudkins alleges that Matthews was recruited to participate in CIA-Castro plots. In a December 1963 FBI report (CD 86, p.198), he is referred to as a close associate of Ruby and a "strong arm man." His attorney in Dallas allegedly described him as a "local godfather" and "probably the closest thing to the Mafia that we've ever seen in this town." CE 2303 states that Ruby placed a 13-minute phone call to Matthews' wife three weeks before the assassination. His wife, Elizabeth Matthews, is now divorced from Matthews and in 1963 resided in Shreveport, Louisiana. She cannot recall receiving the phone call. It has been alleged that Matthews was also associated with H.L. Hunt. Hudkins claims that Matthews knew Castro, had fought with him in Cuba, and had believed that Castro would set him up in a casino in Havana. Hudkins claims that Matthews refused to participate in the plots.

12. Joseph Francis Civello, aka Joe Ciurello

Deceased 1/17/70

Civello attended the Appalachin meeting in 1957 and was the reputed Boss of Organized Crime in Dallas. Civello was considered an experienced narcotics trafficker and extortionist.

- E. Nature and extent of Hall's knowledge of Ruby's financial status

- F. Nature and extent of Hall's knowledge of Ruby relationship with the Dallas Police Department and Federal investigative agencies.

- Knowledge of Ruby as a police informant

- G. Nature and extent of Hall's knowledge of Ruby's involvement in "sex" parties
 - 1. Knowledge of Patrick Kirkwood
 - 2. Knowledge of "Candy Barr" - Juanita Dale Phillips
 - 3. Knowledge of "Little Lynn" - Karen Bennett

1. Patrick Kirkwood

Owner of the Cellar Club in Fort Worth and an acquaintance of Jack Ruby. Allegedly Kirkwood owned a private gambling club in Fort Worth and held sex parties that were frequented by Ruby, organized crime figures, and Dallas police officers.

2. Juanita Dale Phillips, aka Candy Barr

A stripper in the Dallas/Fort Worth area prior to her arrest on drug charges. Ruby contacted her on several occasions after she was released from jail in 1963.

3. Karen Bennett, aka Little Lynn

A stripper at Ruby's Carousel Club, Dallas, Texas. Prior to working at the Carousel, Little Lynn worked at Pat Kirkwood's Cellar Club in Fort Worth.

- H. Facts concerning a deal between Ruby, Harry Hall (posing as Harry Sinclair), and some gamblers in Dallas which reportedly resulted in Hall and Ruby collecting between \$70,000 to \$80,000 on a trip to Midland, Texas.
- I. Nature and extent of Ruby's relationship with Buzzy Rivkin and Dave "Dingy" Halper.
- J. Hall's knowledge of the nature and extent of Ruby's activities in Cuba
 - 1. Trips made to Cuba - 1959
 - 2. Knowledge of relationships Ruby had with persons involved in the casinos in Havana
 - 3. Gunrunning activities

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

On November 29, 1963 Hall contacted the Secret Service in Los Angeles, California and stated he had information of value concerning Jack Ruby of Dallas, Texas. Representatives from the Secret Service and the FBI interviewed Hall on November 30, 1963 at the Federal Correctional Institution, Terminal Island, California. (HSCA Exhibits 1 and 2)

Hall advised that in about the latter part of 1952 or the early part of 1953 he first met Jack Ruby at Dallas, Texas. Hall was introduced to Ruby by his (Hall's) uncle, Marty Field, alias Marty Schwartz.

During the course of the interview Hall discussed various schemes and deals he and Ruby undertook to make money. They split all winnings on a 60-40 basis (Hall got 60%). These deals involved wealthy oil men, including H.L. Hunt, Dick Andrade, and gamblers in the Dallas area. Hall said their activities extended beyond the Dallas area, including the cities of Montreal, Shreveport, San Francisco, Oklahoma City, and Los Angeles.

Hall noted that in connection with his association with Ruby, Hall visited him in what were apparently two places of residence. One was quite pretentious, where Ruby lived alone; the other residence was not nearly as elaborate but was a place where Ruby apparently kept his files and records.

Hall stated that during the period he and Ruby were associated Ruby always carried a gun and was engaged in handling some gambling action in the Dallas area. Hall claimed that Ruby was also involved in some deals in Chicago and San Francisco.

LA 44-895

WJN:mjg

1

HARRY HALL, aka
Harry Helfgott, Harry Hiller,
Harry Hunt, Sidney Brinn,
Sidney Brynn, Sidney Brin,
Sidney Bryn, Harry Sinclair, Jr.,
Ed Pauley, Jr.
FBI No. 2956393

WJN
OK Kinko
LA

HARRY HALL has volunteered information to the FBI at various times since 1950 and has characterized himself as a gambler and sports promoter widely acquainted with individuals in these fields.

On April 22, 1955 he was admitted to the California State Prison on a forgery conviction of 1 to 14 years and was paroled April 23, 1956.

On October 1, 1962 he was sentenced in U. S. District Court to 30 months in the custody of the Attorney General on charges of Obstruction of Justice, Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 1503 and Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property and Fraud By Wire, Title 18, U. S. Code, Section 1343.

On July 12, 1962 in Superior Court, Los Angeles, he was sentenced on a felony non-sufficient check charge to serve a 1 year sentence concurrent with the above listed Federal charge. He is currently serving his sentence at the Federal Correctional Institution at Terminal Island, California.

HALL is well known in law enforcement circles in Los Angeles, California, having acted in a capacity of an informant for most local and Federal agencies. Contacts with HALL by personnel of the FBI reflect that he has on occasion attempted to further his own schemes as a confidence man through his association with various law enforcement agencies.

~~FEROX~~
DEC 11 1963

44-24076-613

FBI

Date 11/30/63

On November 11, 1963 HARRY HALL, an inmate at the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI), Terminal Island, California, was contacted in view of his request to the Secret Service at Los Angeles, California on November 29, 1963 that he be contacted inasmuch as he felt he had information of value concerning JACK RUBY of Dallas, Texas. Present at the interview was Special Agent in Charge GUY H. SPAMAN of the Secret Service, Los Angeles, California.

HALL advised that his reason for contacting law enforcement was that he desired to get out of FCI and before he gave any information, he wanted some assurance of this fact.

HALL was advised that no such assurances could be given to him and if he had information it should be given to the FBI immediately in view of the fact that to conceal valuable information would in effect be obstructing the current investigation with regard to JACK RUBY. HALL was advised that the fact that he did furnish information would be made known to the U. S. Attorney at Los Angeles for whatever consideration he might wish to grant to such an act on the part of HALL. He was definitely advised that no promises of any kind could be made to him in this regard.

HALL advised that in about the latter part of 1952 or the early part of 1953 he first met JACK RUBY at Dallas, Texas. HALL was introduced to RUBY by his, HALL's, uncle MARTY FIELD, whose real name is MARTY SCHWARTZ and who is currently a dealer at the Sands Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada. HALL advised that at that time JACK RUBY was operating a club, the name of which HALL could not recall, but he advised that it looked sort of like a shed of some kind and was located in a rather run down neighborhood and RUBY charged admission to get into this particular club.

HALL advised that following his introduction to RUBY, he became friendly with him inasmuch as he, HALL, was busy acting as a "promoter" at that time and JACK RUBY had a Negro entertainer in connection with whom he asked HALL

On 11/30/63 at Terminal Island, California File # Los Angeles 44-895

by SA WILLIAM JOHN NOLAN:mjg

Date dictated 11/30/63

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to see if he could get him a spot on the Ed Sullivan TV Show. HALL advised that he never followed through on his promise to RUBY in this regard.

HALL noted that in connection with his association with RUBY, RUBY apparently had two places of residence, one of which was quite pretentious and where RUBY lived alone. The other residence which HALL also visited, which would be about 1953, was not nearly as elaborate as the first one, but was a place where RUBY apparently kept his files and records. HALL advised that at one time he went with RUBY to this particular domicile and RUBY picked up a manila envelope and took it with him to his club. HALL noted that during this period, RUBY had a gun with him at all times. HALL advised that he has no particular knowledge of weapons and could only identify the weapon that he saw in RUBY's possession at that time as a long-barreled gun.

HALL advised that at this time in the Dallas area he, HALL, had a good thing going. He had gone to Dallas and was utilizing the name of HARRY SINCLAIR, JR. and upon his arrival in Dallas, he had contacted a wealthy individual by the name of DICK ANDRADE, whose background HALL knew from contacts that HALL had in Los Angeles. HALL, posing as a member of a wealthy oil family, was able to strike up an association with ANDRADE and through him was able to go to the Petroleum Club in the Baker Hotel, Dallas, Texas. HALL advised that he developed this association because of the fact that ANDRADE had a reputation as a heavy bettor and through his association with ANDRADE he was able to be introduced and vouched for to ANDRADE's bookmaking source at Montreal, Canada. This then enabled HALL to place extremely large bets without utilizing any money.

HALL advised that he took JACK RUBY as his guest to the Petroleum Club on one occasion and explained his set up to RUBY, which impressed RUBY very much. RUBY, when he learned of the scheme that HALL was employing, asked to be cut in on it telling HALL that as a "Jew" he would have no chance at all in Dallas if he were arrested. \ RUBY,

however, according to HALL, claimed that he, RUBY, at that time had "plenty of juice" going with the Dallas Police Department and could take care of any squawks that might come up from HALL's operation. HALL advised that he cut RUBY in on a 60-40 split with RUBY providing a bank roll of some several thousand dollars that could be utilized to flash around in the presence of DICK ANDRADE.

HALL advised further that in connection with DICK ANDRADE, RUBY advised him that he could get a couple of guys from Chicago and they could set ANDRADE up which would mean a good score for all of them. HALL claims that he declined RUBY's offer in this regard.

HALL advised that at a later time he again was in the Dallas area and stopped in to see RUBY and he was advised by a girl in RUBY's club that RUBY was in Chicago. The girl gave HALL a telephone number where RUBY could be reached, but HALL does not have this number now.

HALL advised that he called RUBY at this number, which was a store selling off-brand merchandise and located on the west side of North State Street about a half block south of Grand in Chicago. HALL advised that the individual who ran this store, whose name he did not recall, had in addition to the material that was on the shelves in front, guns for sale to those individuals desiring them. This individual also had a brother who was an ex-con and who, according to HALL, was running a similar shop some time last year, also in Chicago. In talking with RUBY at this store, HALL advised that RUBY told him he was buying some "schlock", which term HALL defined as a bunch of off-brand junk. He advised further that at this time RUBY was also engaged in the Dallas area in handling gambling action.

It was at this point in the interview that HALL advised that during his association with RUBY over a period of some three years off and on, he became well acquainted with the fact that RUBY was greatly addicted to fried chicken.

He advised further that the original spot that he recalled being operated by RUBY sold fried chicken in a box. He stated that this point came to mind when he saw news coverage reflecting that the spot allegedly utilized by LEE HARVEY OSWALD for his assassination of the President of the U. S. had had chicken remains left behind.

HALL advised that following his original introduction, he was with JACK RUBY for a period of four months straight and RUBY was always raising some issue about what kind of a score they could make.

In this connection, HALL advised that some time in the period between 1953 and April, 1955, he recalled that while he was at the Petroleum Club, JACK RUBY propositioned HALL with a deal concerning H. L. HUNT. According to RUBY, HUNT had a son named "HASSIE", which was not generally known and who at that time was located in Concord, Massachusetts. RUBY wanted to lay a trap for H. L. HUNT through HASSIE utilizing a scheme where HALL would pose as a doctor. HALL advised that this deal fell through for some reason which he could not recall. T-11

HALL also advised that he and JACK RUBY teamed up at that period when HALL was posing as HARRY SINCLAIR, JR. and beat some gamblers in Dallas, Texas for some \$70,000 to \$80,000, which they split 60-40 to HALL and RUBY respectively.

HALL advised that in order to build up his front, he went into Nieman-Marcus at Dallas with RUBY and bought a thousand dollars worth of clothes, which he paid for by check issued in the name of HARRY SINCLAIR, JR. With his new wardrobe, HALL was able to contact those who had been taken by him and RUBY and secured enough cash to go back to the department store the same date and retrieve the check before it was deposited.

HALL also recalled that he went to Midland, Texas and stayed at a hotel whose name he recalled as the Sharborough (phonetic) with JACK RUBY, at which time he noticed that JACK RUBY had four guns with him. HALL at that time was still utilizing the name SINCLAIR.

He advised that the trip to Midland, Texas was in connection with the scheme to get the \$70,000 or \$80,000 mentioned above.

Going back to DICK ANDRADE, HALL advised that over a period of some months he and RUBY, utilizing ANDRADE's betting contact at Montreal, were able to build up a \$5,000 credit. It was agreed that he and RUBY would go to Montreal to collect and he recalled that he, HALL, proceeded to Montreal and JACK RUBY stopped off at Chicago. HALL recalled that he was paid off by an individual named GORDON at Montreal and also that he, HALL, on several occasions while staying in Montreal contacted RUBY at the store previously mentioned, located on State Street in Chicago. HALL advised that he was able through good betting at Montreal to build up the \$5,000 to almost \$20,000 and he proceeded from Montreal and met JACK RUBY at the Devonshire Hotel located on Ohio Street in Chicago. He advised that a couple named OLLIE and PETE (LNU) were operating the hotel at that time.

In connection with this particular time he advised that he split the winnings with JACK RUBY and on one occasion he went with RUBY to visit a joint run by BUZZY RIVKIN. He also recalls at that time that JACK RUBY met with one DAVE "DINGY" HALPER, also of Chicago, and thinks that this meeting took place at the club run by BUZZY RIVKIN.

HALL at this time corrected himself by advising that he believed that RUBY met him at the Devonshire Hotel, but was actually staying at the Croydon. HALL advised that he, HALL, stayed at the Palmer House, Chicago.

HALL advised that following this visit to Chicago, he and RUBY flew to Oklahoma City where they registered at the Biltmore Hotel under the name HARRY SINCLAIR, JR. They stayed there a couple of days and rented a car and visited the birth place of WILL ROGERS. He remembered that there was a crap game running in that town that RUBY knew about and between them, they took about \$2,000 from the gamblers there. HALL recalled that they won this money through some sort of a scheme. He also recalled there were other games at Shreveport, Louisiana following this visit to Oklahoma where JACK RUBY played gin rummy and lost quite a bit of money and gave the guy a check.

HALL recalls that on another occasion he was staying at the Dallas Athletic Club, utilizing the name of SINCLAIR, as a guest of BUDDY FOGELSON and DICK ANDRADE. He advised that all the expenses for both he and RUBY on this occasion were paid for by either FOGELSON or ANDRADE. He advised that they were there for a period of some two or three days and were entertained by two girls who were models from Nieman-Marcus, who had been introduced to them by ANDRADE. He recalled that he, HALL, gave them \$300 a piece and that JACK RUBY in a fit of temper had hit one of the girls.

In recalling some of his contacts with RUBY, HALL advised that some time in about 1954 or just prior to his going to jail in California in April, 1955, JACK RUBY had gone to San Francisco and was going to see him on his way back to Dallas. He recalls that RUBY in going to San Francisco, was going to see one "STONE", a good friend of MARTY FIELD, HALL's uncle. He advised that STONEY was a bookmaker, well known in the San Francisco area and was also engaged in meeting boats at the docks to buy various smuggled goods from the seamen. Also he recalled that JACK RUBY in the San Francisco area was in contact with either HECKIE or SALLIE SCHUMAN about some deal which HALL did not know about. He advised that HECKIE/SCHUMAN is a well-known bookmaker in San Francisco.

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Another incident concerning RUBY concerned one BILL BYERS, a friend of ANDRADE's. BYERS usually played gin rummy at the Petroleum Club in Dallas and thinking HALL was a wealthy oilman himself, gave HALL a piece of his action in playing gin rummy to the amount of 25 percent of the winnings.

HALL recalled that when RUBY visited him in Los Angeles, he made a proposition to HALL that BYERS usually carried from \$40,000 to \$50,000 around with him at all times and if HALL could come up with information showing he was making a trip anywhere alone, if HALL would pass the information along to RUBY, RUBY had a couple of guys who would hit BYERS and split the proceeds 50-50. HALL said he agreed to this deal, but his prison term in 1955 interfered. However, he heard later that BYERS had been held up or burglarized a few years later while staying at the Del Charro at Del Mar, California.

He also recalled a deal which concerned a New Years Day when he, HALL, went to Fort Worth, Texas and posing as ED PAULEY, JR., had contacted H. L. HUNT and bet him \$1,000 on five different bowl games. He advised that RUBY was in this scam with him and that he, HALL, won all five games. He advised that he does not recall the exact year, but two of the games that he does recall are Texas-Tennessee in the Cotton Bowl and Michigan-California in the Rose Bowl. He advised that they collected \$5,000 from HUNT which they split 60-40.

HALL advised that he has not had any direct contact with JACK RUBY since about 1955, although he visited the Carousel Club last year while in Dallas and was surprised to see the prosperity that was surrounding RUBY since he had previously seen him. RUBY at that time, however, was not in town and HALL did not see him.

HALL advised that it was his opinion from his

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contacts and knowledge of RUBY that RUBY had some strong motivation for his shooting of LEE HARVEY OSWALD and that the only motivation that he, HALL, could attribute to RUBY was money or the fear that OSWALD possibly might involve RUBY in the assassination of the President of the U. S. He admitted this was pure speculation on his part and made the offer that he would be willing to go to Dallas, Texas and meet RUBY and was sure that from such a meeting that he could learn from RUBY what motivated him to shoot and kill OSWALD.

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE
TREASURY DEPARTMENT

003709

FILE NO. 4-3-601.0

ORIGIN Field OFFICE Los Angeles, California

| | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------|--|
| TYPE OF CASE <u>Protective Research</u> | | STATUS <u>Closed</u> | TITLE OR CAPTION <u>Jack Ruby - PRS Subject</u> |
| INVESTIGATION MADE AT <u>Los Angeles, California</u> | PERIOD COVERED <u>11/29/63 - 11/30/63</u> | | |
| INVESTIGATION MADE BY <u>SAIC Guy H. Spaman & SA Darwin D. Horn</u> | | | |

DETAILS

DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

On the afternoon of November 29, 1963, SAIC Spaman received a phone call from a man who said he was Irving Cassidy. Mr. Cassidy said that he had just visited Harry Hall in Terminal Island Federal Reformatory, Los Angeles, and Mr. Hall asked that Mr. Cassidy call SAIC Spaman to tell him that Harry Hall had information concerning Jack Ruby from Dallas, Texas, and would like to talk with the Secret Service.

Harry Hall was an informant for the Los Angeles Office several years ago, giving information which resulted in the seizure of a counterfeiting plant. He has since given information to the Intelligence Division of the Treasury and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Harry Hall is serving a sentence of 30 months in Terminal Island for defrauding boxing promoter Truman Gibson of a large sum of money. His confidence scheme involved forging United States Attorney Francis Chelan's signature and other fraudulent Federal papers resulting in his conviction in Federal Court after an investigation by the FBI.

On the same date SA Horn interviewed Harry Hall at Terminal Island Reformatory in the presence of a prison official. Hall stated that he had had business dealings with Jack Ruby and was well acquainted with him, but advised SA Horn that he did not want to talk in the reformatory in the presence of witnesses, but would talk to SAIC Spaman if he could be taken out of Terminal Island to the Secret Service Office.

On November 30, 1963, SAIC Spaman discussed this matter with Inspector Kelley at Dallas, Texas, advising Inspector Kelley that Harry Hall had been of assistance to other agencies in addition to the Secret Service, and that his information in many cases had been reliable.

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| | | APPROVED <u>454</u> | DATE |
| | | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | |

SAIC Spanan discussed with Inspector Kelley the advisability of interviewing Hall with an FBI agent, inasmuch as the FBI had been in close contact with Hall recently, and Hall was in the custody of the Department of Justice. Inspector Kelley agreed to this procedure. SAIC Spanan then made arrangements with SAC William Simon, FBI, Los Angeles, for SA William Knowland, FBI, to meet with Spanan at Terminal Island.

On November 30, 1963, SAIC Spanan and SA Knowland, FBI, interviewed Harry Hall at Terminal Island without prison officials being present. Hall stated that around 1950 to 1952 his Uncle, Marty Fields, introduced him to Jack Ruby in Dallas, Texas. At that time Ruby ran a small cheap bar and night club in Dallas. Harry Hall had checked into a Dallas Hotel using the alias of Harry Sinclair, Jr. and was looking for high stake gambling games to get into or to place bets on football games or horse races.

His method of operation at that time was to use the name of a well known person and ingratiate himself with persons with money. He would then make bets or gamble putting over fictitious checks if he lost and leaving town. Ruby on occasion provided Hall with a bankroll and introduced him to likely victims, with Ruby taking 40% of any deal while Hall collected 60%. Ruby's cut was because he was supposed to have influence with the police, so that he would have no worry about any gambling arrest.

Hall said that during this period through influential people, he was able to meet in Dallas, he was able to place bets with a bookie in Montreal by telephone, winning about \$5,000. Ruby and Hall then went to Chicago enroute to Montreal to collect their winnings, but Ruby remained in Chicago while Hall went to Montreal and collected the money, returning to join Ruby in Chicago.

At that time Ruby was staying at the Devonshire Hotel on the near north side in Chicago, while Hall stayed at the Palmer House. During their stay in Chicago Ruby visited and seemed quite friendly with a man who had a store which sold what Hall called "schlox" meaning off-brand merchandise similar to expensive appliances, etc. This man's store was located on the west side of State street, in the middle of the block south of Grand. This man was supposed to be able to get for a person any type of merchandise that a person wanted. Hall did not know what Ruby's dealings were with this man. They returned to Dallas by way of Tulsa, Oklahoma, where Ruby seemed to have good connections in gambling circles, and Shreveport, Louisiana, where Ruby had similar good connections.

Hall stated that there was a Texas millionaire named Bill Byers, who came from Tyre, Texas, who was friendly with two other Texas millionaires named Murchison and Andraddy. Bill Byers circulated between Texas and Los Angeles. Ruby knew that Byers carried large sums of money with him and wanted Hall, who also knew Byers, to find out when Byers would be alone. Ruby said he had a couple of men who would hold Byers up without injuring him, and that Ruby and Hall could divide whatever

money Byers had. Hall said he did not go through with this deal, but he heard later that Byers was robbed while at the Del Charro Hotel, La Jolla, California. This hotel is owned by Mr. Murchison.

Hall further stated that some time during this period, while he was going under the name of Harry Sinclair, Jr. or Ed Paulsen, Jr. he met H. I. Hunt, another Texas millionaire; that he and Ruby bet Hunt on the Cotton Bowl and Rose Bowl games, winning a large sum of money from Hunt, which they split.

Hall stated that also during this time he and Ruby came to Los Angeles and Ruby continued to San Francisco, where he said he was going to see one "Stony" and "Solly" or "Hecky" Schuman on some deal. These men were supposed to be known racketeers or gamblers in San Francisco. Hall stated that one time when he was associating with Ruby, he recalls that Ruby said that he was going to Florida to buy a load of "contraband" to send to Israel. Hall said that Ruby was the type who was interested in any way to make money and seemed to have good contacts with the police. He said that he could not conceive of Ruby doing anything out of patriotism.

Hall further stated that he was acquainted with one Eugenia Elson, who is a manicurist at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel, Los Angeles. He said she has a son, Eugene, who is 8 or 9 years old. She was born in Russia and formerly lived in Dallas, being married to a wealthy Dallas man whom she has since divorced. Hall stated that this woman, he believed, had some Russian friends in Dallas. He said he knew of no connection between her and Ruby.

Hall stated that he was sentenced to State Reformatory, Chino, California, in 1955 for checks, being released in 1956. He said all of the above information related to events before that time; that he had no dealings or no contact with Ruby since 1955. However, he stated that he was close enough to Ruby so that if he were permitted to talk to Ruby he believed he could persuade him to tell the whole story.

SA Knowland stated that the information he secured at this joint questioning of Hall would be teletyped to their Dallas Office.

DISPOSITION

Closed Los Angeles.

Ruby, Jack 2-2

Item 3

On August 11, 1953, Special Agent Ralph J. Miles chanced to be in the office of Vincent Lee, Branch Manager, American Guild of Variety Artists, 1818 Live Oak Street, Dallas, Texas, on official business. An individual later identified by Mr. Lee as Jack Ruby, operator of the Silver Spur, 1717 South Ervay Street, Dallas, Texas, came blustering into Lee's office. Ruby demanded of Lee that Lee supply Ruby with some "girls" to put on entertainment at his Silver Spur. Lee told Ruby that Ruby would have to put up a cash bond to guarantee the girls' salary whereupon Ruby began to curse Lee, claiming that he was short on money and that Lee did not make his, Ruby's, competitors put up such a cash bond. Lee maintained that he still could not furnish girl entertainers to Ruby unless Ruby put up some cash at which time Ruby arse and in a threatening tone of voice asked Lee: "Do you want to know whether or not I'm packing a gun?", and "What are you trying to do, be a tough guy in Dallas? Well, I'm just as tough as they come" or words to that effect.

After Ruby stormed out of Lee's office, cursing all the while, Lee confidentially advised Special Agent Miles that Ruby considered himself a very tough Dallas character and was an associate of Joe Bonds, operator of the Sky Club, who was also a "tough" character who bore a grudge against Lee because Lee one time attempted to collect a \$700.00 bad check Bonds had given a girl entertainer at which time either Bonds or one of his henchmen had struck Lee across the forehead with a pistol. Lee continued that both Ruby and Bonds always carried concealed pistols and were in constant association with James Robert Todd, better known as Jack Todd, FBI number 1805383, Dallas Police Department number 22255, a well-known Dallas safe-cracker. Lee informed that Ruby, Bonds and Todd, together with other hoodlums and safe-crackers, whose identities were unknown to Lee, usually hung around Sue's Used Car Lot, 3400 Live Oak, Dallas, Texas.

FILE
9-17-69
I.R. 8

ANTONIO DE VARONA CHRONOLOGY

Early background: Educated as an attorney. Exiled three times from Cuba.

1924 Beginning of various political activities. Initiated the uprising which eventually overthrew Gerardo Machado.

1940 Elected congressman from Camaguey Province.

1944 Elected senator.

1947 Appointed leader of the parliamentary committee of his party.

October 1947 Appointed Prime Minister under Carlos Prio.

1952 Batista overthrows Prio; de Varona begins fight against Batista.

1959 Castro takes over; de Varona recognizes communistic leanings, flees into exile.

August 1960 Bissell and Edwards have discussion concerning use of underworld figures to aid in assassination of Castro.

August 25, 1960 Reports of de Varona's recent visit to U.S. indicate he allegedly solicited funds from Las Vegas gamblers.

September 1960 Sheffield Edwards, CIA Director of the Office of Security, designates the task of putting the plan to kill Castro into operation to the CIA Support Chief, James O'Connell. O'Connell initiates contact with Robert Maheu. Maheu brings in John Roselli, who quickly brings in Sam Giancana and Santo Trafficante.

Antonio de Varona chronology...page 2

September 14, 1960

Antonio de Varona arrives in New York City from Mexico City.

September 14, 1960

James O'Connell meets with Roselli and Maheu at the Plaza Hotel in New York City.

Week of
September 25, 1960

James O'Connell, Maheu and Roselli meet in Miami with Giancana and Trafficante.

September 27, 1960

De Varona appointed coordinator of the FRD.

October 8, 1960

De Varona reportedly interested in mounting operations as political favor for contacts with non-FRD supporters.

October 18, 1960

Memo from J. Edgar Hoover to intelligence agencies detailing Giancana's statements about an imminent Castro assassination plot.

Early 1961

A CIA official met with a highly placed Cuban official to determine if the Cuban would cooperate in efforts against the Castro regime (I.G. Report, p.78). The Cuban was referred to by the cryptonym AM/LASH.

January 2, 1961

Lewis McWillie returns to the U.S. from Cuba.

January 18, 1961

FBI memorandum indicates that a Cuban was associated with anti-Castro activities financed by U.S. racketeers, including Santo Trafficante. This same Cuban was subsequently used by Roselli in the second passage of pills to Cuba in April 1962.

January 23, 1961

FBI reports indicate "Gambling elements in the U.S. have offered to contribute as high as 2 million dollars to finance the anti-Castro operations of de Varona and the organization which he represents, apparently in the hope of getting in on the ground floor should Castro be overthrown." The Cellini family reportedly in contact with de Varona through public relations man Edward K. Moss of Washington, D.C. "It was through this channel that the offer of financial assistance was made."

February 1961

James O'Connell received the poison pills from the Technical Services Division, and then gave them to Roselli.

Late February 1961
or March 1961

Roselli reported to O'Connell that the pills had been delivered to an official close to Castro who may have received kickbacks from the gambling interests. The official returned the pills after two weeks, perhaps because he had lost his position in the Cuban government.

March 13, 1961

FBI report indicates information received that the CIA paying de Varona \$300,000 per month for the FRD.

March or April 1961

Roselli told O'Connell that Trafficante knew of a man higher up in the Cuban exile movement who might do the job. He was identified as de Varona, leader of the Democratic Revolutionary Front. De Varona was believed to have assets inside Cuba.

April 15-17, 1961

The Bay of Pigs invasion fails.

April 18, 1961

Maheu tells the FBI of CIA involvement in Las Vegas wire tap.

April 19-20, 1961

President Kennedy meets with Cubans who escaped from the Bay of Pigs. One of the exiles, probably de Varona, had been involved in smuggling the poison pills for the CIA/Mafia plot into Cuba.

May 18, 1961

The General Taylor/Kennedy Board interviewed several Cuban exile leaders who had been involved in the Bay of Pigs, including the leaders who had cooperated in the assassination plot. The subject of the inquiry was the Bay of Pigs operation.

May 22, 1961

Hoover memo to Attorney General Kennedy noting CIA used Giancana in "clandestine efforts" against Castro.

July 21, 1961

Special Group memo for the record reports that the basic objective regarding Cuba is to develop opposition to Castro and to "bring about a regime acceptable to the United States."

September 15, 1961

CRC and FRD merge, with Jose Miro Cardona as head, de Varona as second in command.

November 1961

William Harvey instructed to take over the contact with John Roselli as part of Project ZR/RIFLE; Harvey takes over Mafia plots. He counts Maheu out and deals directly with Roselli.

January 29, 1962

CIA objects to prosecution of Maheu for Las Vegas wire tap.

April 8, 1962

Harvey, O'Connell, and Roselli meet for a second time in New York on April 8-9 to set up the next attempt on Castro.

April 18, 1962

The Technical Services Division of the CIA delivers the second batch of poison pills to O'Connell.

April 21, 1962

Harvey passes the poison pills to Roselli in Miami.

May 3, 1962

Progress report to the Special Group augmented on "agent teams" and the general field of intelligences. Harvey reported that three agent teams had been infiltrated.

May 1962

Roselli passes the poison pills to Cubans for transport to Cuba.

June 1962

De Varona reportedly in Washington, D.C. to speak to Republican senators regarding the CRC and Cuban exiles. De Varona was asked why he was doing this as it would put the CRC in a bad position with the Kennedy administration. De Varona said it would be justified if it caused the administration to do something drastic. Cardona reportedly was "furious."

June 21, 1962

Roselli tells Harvey that a six-man team has been dispatched to Cuba.

September 7, 1962

Harvey meets Roselli in Miami. The Cuban was reported to be preparing to send in another three-man team to penetrate Castro's bodyguard. Harvey was told that the pills were still "safe" in Cuba.

September 11, 1962

Harvey and Roselli confer in Miami regarding the status of the plots.

October 22-28, 1962

Cuban Missile Crisis. Harvey orders agent teams into Cuba to support any United States military action that might occur.

December 12, 1962

In a meeting with the Honduran President and other Cuban exile leaders, de Varona makes the statement that the CIA is responsible for the current lack of exile activity and is working behind the back of Kennedy.

December 24, 1962

Brigade 2506 survivors return to the United States. President Kennedy addresses the Cuban exiles in the football stadium in Miami.

February 1963

The Mafia plot is ended, according to Harvey.

March 1963

Roselli claims the Castro assassination plots ended.

April 22, 1963

Meetings held regarding dissolution of the CRC. De Varona advocated an "open door" policy for the CRC, which would admit Cuban individuals rather than organizations into the CRC as a method for promoting unity. De Varona said it had been decided not to dissolve the CRC and replace it with a new organization because the CRC is an established organization well known in this hemisphere.

April 23, 1963

Meeting held to advise de Varona of the liquidation of the CRC.

April 29, 1963

FBI report indicates de Varona rejected an offer to continue to receive a monthly salary after liquidation of the CRC. De Varona also reportedly would not agree to disband the CRC.

June 1963

Harvey and Roselli meet. Harvey said this meeting was a going-away dinner since he had been transferred overseas and would not be seeing much of Roselli anymore.

June 22, 1963

Antonio Maceo resigns as head of CRC after protesting CRC announcement concerning landing of infiltration groups in Cuba. FBI files indicate Maceo was reportedly told the episode was a propaganda gimmick to put the CRC in a favorable light. Maceo did not want to be the "fall guy" when the affair goes sour.

June 24, 1963

De Varona continuing CRC despite pullout of CIA interest and resignations of Jose Miro Cardona and Antonio Maceo. CRC reiterates and confirms public statement announcing landing and infiltration into Cuba of some commando units. CIA reports indicate "Bayo-Pawley" raid may have been CRC plan.

September 7, 1963

CIA case officers have their first meeting with Cubela (AM/LASH) since the Bay of Pigs. Cubela says he is interested in doing an "inside job" and awaits a plan of action from the U.S.

October 29, 1963

Fitzgerald meets AM/LASH and promises him that the U.S. would support a coup against Castro.

November 14, 1963

De Varona arrived in New Orleans and stayed at the home of Augustin Guitart, assistant delegate of the New Orleans CRC. Guitart is also the Rescate delegate in New Orleans, according to Frank Bartes, CRC delegate. De Varona was reportedly invited to bolster the morale of the New Orleans Cuban exiles.

November 16, 1963

De Varona supposed to proceed to Houston, Texas where, reportedly, his son resides.

November 22, 1963

Fitzgerald and the case officer meet with Cubela and offer him the poison pen.

June 10, 1964

Helms memo to McCone stating that Agency officials had learned of several plots by Cuban exiles to assassinate Castro and other Cuban leaders.

June 1964

CRC disbanded officially.

Early 1965

CIA cable states that B-1 had given Cubela a silencer and that Cubela had small, highly concentrated explosives.

April 1965

De Varona reportedly continues as head of Rescate but not very active and encountering financial difficulties.

June 1965

CIA terminates all contact with AM/LASH and his associates for reasons related to security.

I. VARONA'S ROLE AS A LEADER IN THE CUBAN EXILE MOVEMENT

In June 1960, establishment of an "umbrella" group of anti-Castro Cuban exiles got underway in Mexico City with the full support and assistance of the Central Intelligence Agency and with the aim of unifying major anti-Castro Cuban exiles for constructive action. The organization became known by the name Frente Revolucionario Democratico (FRD) or the "Revolutionary Council." Five major groups made up the initial core of the organization: Triple A, led by Sanchez Arango; Asociacion Montecristi, led by Justo Carillo; Movimiento Revolucionario de Recuperacion, led by Manuel Artime; Movimiento Democratico Cristiano, led by Jose Ignacio Rasco; and Rescate, headed by "Tony" de Varona.

Because of Varona's stature as former President of the Cuban Senate and Prime Minister under Carlos Prío, he quickly assumed a lead position in the FRD as Coordinator. Despite ongoing struggles within the FRD and its successor group, the Cuban Revolutionary Council, which often led to reshuffling of the leadership, Varona established a firm and permanent foothold in the organization while continuing to engage in independent exile activity.

In October 1960, the FRD moved to Miami to accelerate plans for dissemination of propaganda, recruiting for military training at camps in Guatemala, purchase of arms, boats and communications equipment for infiltration into

Cuba in preparation for the invasion. When Varona was elected chairman of the Executive Committee, Sanchez Amango withdrew from the FRD in protest, and it was decided to broaden the political base of the organization. Antonio Maceo, Carlos Hevia, and other leaders were added.

Another shakeup occurred following efforts by State Department officials and interested members of the Kennedy administration to include Manolo Ray and his group, the MRP, in the FRD. The dispute centered on FRD leadership objections to Ray's leftist leanings and late departure from Cuba; the MRP was said to have singled out Varona in particular as the reason for their reluctance to join. There were charges that Varona was setting up his own private following within the organization by putting his own men in key positions; by his power over the FRD purse strings; and through his Rescate group, which he kept active even after the dissolution of the CRC in 1964. Complaints were also made that Varona was using funds for his own personal use.

However, differences were worked out and Jose Miro Cardona joined, while Ray split off from the group to form JURE in Puerto Rico. Cardona was given the lead role on the Executive Committee to smooth the division resulting from the Varona-Ray disputes. Over Varona's objections Cardona appointed Manuel Artime as the liaison between the Executive Committee and the Brigade 2506 which

was then training in Guatemala for the invasion. Yet Varona's favorable opinion of the Brigade training was crucial, according to E. Howard Hunt, to insure the solidarity between the Brigade and the FRD following a visit to the camps in the Executive Committee.

Not only was Varona's relationship to the rank and file strained, he was equally often at odds with his CIA sponsors and fellow FRD leadership for his frequent independent maneuverings. FBI files for January 1961 reflect that Varona was approaching non-FRD leaders regarding the establishment of a provisional government, but conducting these negotiations without the knowledge of the other Executive Committee members. Hunt chastised Varona for an operation Rescate members tried to pull off without CIA knowledge or approval, according to Hunt's book, Give Us This Day.

During the time that Varona became involved in CIA plots with organized crime figures, he may also have had contact with Mafia types for his own interests. (See Organized Crime memo). A Department of Justice memo for January 23, 1961, indicates information was received that Varona had been contacted by the Cellini brothers, who were probably fronting for gambling interests, with an offer to contribute financially to anti-Castro operations.

On March 22, 1961, less than a month before the Bay of Pigs invasion, the FRD was phased out with the announce-

ment of the organization of the Cuban Revolutionary Council, the political branch of the invasion plans whose members would make up the provisional government after Castro's fall. Miro Cardona was made President, Varona remained coordinator, and even Manolo Ray joined as Chief of Sabotage and Internal Affairs until after the April fiasco.

Following the invasion, government subsidies of the CRC continued until March 1963, but hopes for wholesale invasion dimmed as the U.S. government became increasingly less cooperative about raids into Cuba emanating from U.S. territory. These raids were specifically prohibited in a statement from the Attorney General in April of 1963.

At this time, also, dissolution of the CRC was seriously discussed. Jose Miro Cardona stepped down from his post as president and U.S. government support was withdrawn. A policy allowing for individuals to join the group-oriented organization was set up by Varona. Antonio Maceo was made President. However, an internal flap in June of 1963 over CRC announcements of a successful infiltration raid into Cuba caused Maceo to submit his resignation. Agency files indicate the Bayo-Pawley raid, which took place in mid-June, may have been set up as a CRC "gimmick" to attract favorable publicity.

Varona took over the skeletal CRC until its final dissolution in June 1964. We do not know much about specific ventures undertaken between June 1963 until the assassination in November. However, CRC representatives

continued to maintain offices in New Orleans. (CRC offices, in fact, had been located for a short time in 1962 at the same address as was stamped on some of Lee Harvey Oswald's Fair Play for Cuba literature, 544 Camp St.) Varona reportedly visited the New Orleans delegation on November 16, 1963 and stayed with Augustin Guitart, a CRC assistant delegate and Rescate delegate for the New Orleans. (Guitart is the uncle of Sylvia Odio).

Varona continued his activities with the Rescate group for several years after the CRC was disbanded.

OBJECTIVE

GOAL #1

To determine Antonio de Varona's role in the activities of Central Intelligence Agency-sponsored and privately-funded anti-Castro Cuban groups , including all assassination attempts.

LINE OF QUESTIONING

A. RESCATE

1. Pre-Castro Era

- a. Dates in existence
- b. Personnel
- c. Political Alignment
- d. Major Activities

2. Anti-Castro Era

- a. Dates in existence
- b. Personnel
- c. Political Alignment
- d. Major activities
- e. Association with the Frente Revolucionario Democratico
- f. Activities performed independent of the Frente Revolucionario Democratico
- g. Association with other anti-Castro groups

B. Nature and extent of Antonio de Varona's

involvement in the Frente Revolucionario Democratico

1. Role in formation of Frente Revolucionario

Democratico.

- a. Date when begun
- b. Coordinators
- c. Sponsors
- d. Personnel
- e. Political Alignment
- f. Training headquarters
- g. Major Activities
- h. Association with other groups

C. Nature and extent of Antonio de Varona's
involvement in the Cuban Revolutionary Council

1. Role in formation of Cuban Revolutionary Council

- a. Date when begun
- b. Coordinators
- c. Sponsors/Funding
- d. Personnel
- e. Political Alignment
- f. Training Headquarters
- g. Major Activities
- h. Association with other groups

2. Knowledge of relationship between the Cuban
Revolutionary Council and its New Orleans branch

- a. Contact with Cuban Revolutionary Delegates
 - i. Luis Rabel
 - ii. Sergio Arcacha Smith
 - iii. Arnesto Rodriguez
 - iv. Manuel Gil
 - v. Frank Bartes

vi. Nature of his stay at Augustin Guitart's home

b. Knowledge of attempts to establish training camps in Lake Pontchartrain near New Orleans, Louisiana.

i. Funding

ii. Personnel

iii. Federal Bureau of Investigation Bust

3. Role, if any, of Cuban Revolutionary Council in the Bayo-Pawley raid.

a. Knowledge regarding announcement of raid into Cuba in June of 1964.

b. Knowledge of resignation of Maceo from the Cuban Revolutionary Council coinciding with the Bayo-Pawley Raid

D. Nature and extent of Antonio de Varona's knowledge and association with the following: SEE ATTACHED

Nature and extent of Antonio de Varona's knowledge and association with the following:

A. Alpha 66

1. Antonio Carlos Veciana Blanch

B. Segundo Frente Nacional de Escambray

1. Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo

2. Max Lesnick

C. Movimiento Revolucionario del Pueblo

1. Joaquin Godoy y Solis

2. Manuel Ray Rivero

3. Jose Miro Cardona

D. Agrupacion Montecristi

1. Jorge Nobregas

2. Francisco Carillo

E. JURE

1. Sylvia Odio

2. Rogelio Cisneros Diaz

3. Duney Perez Alamo

F. Cuba Libre

1. Carlos Zarraga Martinez

2. Carlos Hernandez Sanchez

G. Comandos L

1. Antonio Cuesta del Valle

2. Lawrence LaBorde

3. Luis Balbuena

4. Santiago Alvarez Fernandez

5. Santiago Alvarez Rodriguez

H. Cuban Revolutionary Council

1. Sergio Arcacha Smith
2. Frank Bartes
3. Antonio Maceo Mackle
4. Manuel Gil
5. Carlos Quiroga

I. Directorio Revolucionario Estudiantil

1. Carlos Bringuier
2. Juan Manuel Salvat Roque
3. Jose Antonio Lanusa
4. Ross Crozier

J. Movimiento Demócrata Cristiano

1. Laureano Batista Falla
2. Jose Ignacio Rasco Bermuda
3. Richard Rudolph Davis
4. Victor Paneque

K. Movimiento Revolucionario Treinta de Noviembre

1. Carlos Rodriguez Quesada

L. Junta de Gobierno de Cuba en el Exilio

1. Paulino A. Sierra Martinez
2. Reinaldo Pico

M. International Anticommunist Brigade/ Interpen

1. Gerald Patrick Hemming
2. Howard Kenneth Davis
3. Frank Sturgis
4. Roy Emory Hargraves

5. Lawrence Howard
 6. William Seymour
 7. Manolo Aguilar
 8. Dennis Lynn Harber
 9. Pedro Diaz Lanz
 10. Marcos Diaz Lanz
 11. Mike McLaney
 12. Richaed Watley
 13. Max Gorman Gonzalez
 14. William Johnson
- N. Movimiento Insurreccional de Recuperacion Revolucionaria
1. Orlando Bosch
- O. Ejercito Cubano Anticomunista
1. Evelio Duque Miyar
- P. Centinelas de la Libertad
1. Luis Conte Aguero
- Q. Veteranos de la Bahia de Cochinos, Brigade 2506
1. Bernardo de Torres
 2. Frank Castro
- R. Ejercito Invasor Cubana
1. Francisco Rodriguez Tamayo = "El Mexicano"
 2. Eduardo Sotolongo Medina
 3. Alberto Hernandez Hechevarria
- S. Movimiento de Recuperacion Revolucionario
1. Manuel Artime
 2. Higinio Diaz
 3. Ricardo Lorie
 4. Sergio Sangenis

T. Carlos Blanco Group

1. Joachim Sangenis
2. Juan Antonio Varona

U. Miscellaneous

1. Sanchez Arango
2. Manuel Rodriguez Orcabarro
3. Spruille Braden
4. Carlos de Varona y Segura
5. Alberto Muller y Quintana
6. Ramon Barquin Canterio
7. Rufo Lopez Fresquet
8. Santiago Babun
9. Rafael Gener "Macho"
10. Maurice Bishop
11. David Morales
12. Riccardo Morales
13. Luis Pichardo
14. Cesar Diosdado
15. Julio Lobo
16. Carlos Prio
17. Loran Hall
18. Rolando Otero
19. Juan Tapia Adames
20. Sam Kail
21. Mitchell Warbell
22. David Ferrie
23. Norman Rothman

24. Manolo Reboso
25. Andrew St. George
26. Alexander Rorke
27. Lee Harvey Oswald
28. Earl T. Smith
29. Jack Ruby
30. Wallace Shanley
31. Marcos Perez Jimenez
32. Kerry Thornley
33. Eladio del Valle
34. John Martino
35. Nathaniel Weyl
36. Justin McCarthy
37. Clare Booth Luce
38. Howard L. Hunt
39. Jim Noel
40. Richard Lauchli
41. Jose Aleman
42. James Buchanan
43. Jerry Buchanan
44. James Cogswell
45. William Pawley
46. Eduardo Perez (Bayo)
47. Meyer Lansky
48. Marita Lorenz
49. Luis Posada
50. Grayson Lynch

51. Rolando Masferrer
52. Jorge Soto Martinez
53. Victor Espinosa Hernandez
54. Robert McKeown
55. Amador Odio
56. Howard Hughes
57. Joseph Shilmon
58. Agustin Guitart
59. Martin Fox
60. Oscar Echevarria
61. Enrique Garcia
62. Evaristo Garcia Vidal
63. Raul Gonzales Jerrey
64. Roberto Fernandez Miranda
65. Frank Ragano
66. Dominick Bartone
67. Henry Saavedra
68. Edward Whitehouse
69. William Morgan
70. Charles Tourine
71. Dino Cellini
72. Santo Trafficante
73. Donald Edward Browder
74. Joe Merola
75. Sam Giancana
76. John Rosselli

II. DE VARONA'S ORGANIZED CRIME BACKGROUND

In the fall of 1960, the CIA recruited John Roselli, a Las Vegas mobster, to plan and execute an assassination of Fidel Castro. Having only limited contacts with the Cuban exile community, Roselli and his Chicago mentor, Sam Giancana, contacted Santo Trafficante, in Miami, Florida to arrange for Cuban activists. Initial plans proved unproductive and Trafficante was then requested to furnish an alternative course of action.

In March or April of 1961, Roselli told the CIA Support Chief, James O'Connell, that Santo Trafficante knew of a man higher up in the Cuban exile movement who might assist them in assassinating Castro. This man was identified as the leader of the Democratic Revolutionary Front (FRD) and, therefore, probably was Antonio de Varona. De Varona was given the poison pills to pass on to assets within Cuba, but this plot was aborted due to the Bay of Pigs invasion.

There is some indication that de Varona was also involved with organized crime individuals prior to April of 1961. A memorandum from the Director of the FBI to the Attorney General, dated January 23, 1961, reports that the FBI has received information that "gambling elements in the United States have offered to contribute as high as two million dollars to finance the anti-Castro operations

of de Varona and the organization which he represents..." This memorandum contains information that de Varona may have received financial backing from Dino Cellini through Edward K. Moss. Dino Cellini is an organized crime figure who had had some business interests in Cuba. His sister, Julia Cellini, was alleged to be Moss's mistress. Two FBI memoranda, dated December 21, 1960 and January 18, 1961, refer to the Cuban who was involved in the passage of the poison pills in March or April of 1961. The memos state that this Cuban was associated with anti-Castro activities financed by U.S. racketeers, including Santo Trafficante, who hoped to secure illegal monopolies in the event of a Castro overthrow.

After the Bay of Pigs, William Harvey resumed the Castro/Mafia assassination plots. In April of 1962, he passed some poison pills to Roselli, who probably gave them to de Varona. In June, Roselli told Harvey that a six-man team had been dispatched to Cuba. In August of 1962, the Cuban was reported to be preparing to send in another three-man team to penetrate Castro's bodyguard. De Varona is probably the Cuban referred to as arranging these teams.

It was logical that the American syndicate would attempt to assist de Varona and to acquire his favor, since de Varona

II. De Varona OC Background...page 3

was an important leader of the Cuban exiles who would probably have held a key position in a new Cuban government should the plots succeed. De Varona also had the added attraction of CIA support, and by inference, the Agency's approval. It was also logical that de Varona would value organized crime support since they could easily supply financial backing, arms, and other support required to overthrow Castro.

OBJECTIVE

GOAL #2

To determine de Varona's role in the CIA/Mafia Castro assassination plots and to determine de Varona's relationship to and involvement with organized crime figures.

LINE OF QUESTIONING

- A. Nature and extent of de Varona's involvement in the CIA/Mafia plots
 1. Pre-Bay of Pigs: August 1960 - May 1961
 - a. CIA contacts and associations during August 1960
 - b. Initial contacts regarding specific plots to assassinate Castro (de Varona's trip from Mexico to New York City in September of 1960 and the New York meeting of Roselli, Maheu, and O'Connell on September 14; Miami meetings)
 - c. CIA/American gambling contacts regarding Castro assassination plots
 1. Funding
 2. Operations
 3. Lines of communication
 4. Support material and personnel

- d. Specific Operations
 1. Poison pills - January-February 1961
 2. Cuban operatives
 3. Reasons for failure of mission
 4. Association with Juan Orta

2. Bay of Pigs
 - a. Specific role in the Bay of Pigs
 - b. Relationship with E.H. Hunt (Edward or Eduardo Hamilton)
 - c. Contact with American gamblers regarding the Bay of Pigs
 - d. Role during the invasion

3. Post-Bay of Pigs: May 1961 to June 1963
 - a. Recontact by American gambling individuals
 1. Meetings with Roselli, Trafficante, and "Maceo."
 2. Relationship with Rafael "Macho" Gener
 - b. Actual Operations
 1. Assassination squads
 2. Approximate dates and outcome of assassination attempts
 - c. Arrest and imprisonment of individual members involved in the assassination plots

- d. Information as to the return of members of the assassination teams to the United States
- e. Information regarding Castro's knowledge of the assassination plots

4. AM/LASH plots

- a. Knowledge of Rolando Cubela
- b. Contact with Cubela: 1960-1965
- c. Knowledge of Cubela's relationship with covert operations with the CIA (Hunt and Artime)
- d. Information regarding Castro's knowledge of Cubela's CIA affiliation
- e. Information regarding Castro double-agents (possibly Cubela, Artime)
- f. Knowledge of Castro assassination teams in the United States

5. CIA-funded activities independent of assassination plots: May 1961 to June 1963

- a. CIA contact for activities
- b. Extent to which knowledge of CIA-funded activities and assassination plots were shared by the same CIA officials and American gambling interests (Discussions with E.H. Hunt regarding assassination plots)

- B. Nature and extent of associations with American gambling interests independent of CIA sponsorship
 - 1. Pre-Castro Cuba: knowledge of and associations with American syndicate figures; i.e., Santo Trafficante, Norman Rothman, Dino Cellini, Charles Tourine, the Fox brothers, and Lewis J. McWillie
 - 2. United States gambling associates and financial assistance
 - a. Dino Cellini through Edward K. Moss
 - b. Dominick Bartone
 - c. Plot regarding Pepin Bosch and organized crime
 - 3. Other American suppliers of arms and material for Cuban raids
- C. Nature and extent of de Varona's knowledge of assassination of President John F. Kennedy
 - 1. Vocal exile groups opposed to JFK
 - 2. Information obtained post-assassination regarding role of any exiles or individuals in the assassination
 - 3. Specific information regarding relationship of Lee Harvey Oswald to any Cuban exile group

4. Information obtained post-assassination regarding role of American gamblers or individuals in the assassination
 5. Specific information regarding the relationship of Jack Ruby to any American gamblers or Cuban exile groups
- D. Nature and extent of de Varona's knowledge and association with specific individuals
(See attached list -- Goal #1)

BIOGRAPHY

Maurice Martineau
1389 Canterbury
Rockville, Maryland

Presently retired from the United States Secret Service.

Mr. Martineau entered the United States Secret Service as a Special Agent in 1940. In 1954 he was promoted to Special Agent in Charge (SAIC) of the field office in Grand Rapids, Michigan. In 1955, he transferred to Milwaukee, Wisconsin as Special Agent in Charge (SAIC) and remained in that position until 1961, at which time he was transferred to Kansas, Missouri.

In February 1963, he was sent to the Chicago, Illinois field office as Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAIC). From 1969 until he retired in 1972 he was an "Inspector" in the Inspections and Review Division of the Secret Service.

During the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, Mr. Martineau was in Chicago. At the direction of Thomas Kelly, Secret Service Inspector, he became involved in a limited post-assassination investigation.

GENERAL LINE OF INQUIRY

WITH REGARD TO PRESIDENTIAL PROTECTION AND SECURITY

1. What were the function and responsibility of Secret Service field offices/White House Detail for Presidential protection and security?
2. Who in the field offices assumed primary responsibility?
3. What systems and goals were developed and maintained in regard to:
 - a. Identification of individuals who represented a threat;
 - b. Identification of groups who represented a threat;
 - c. Determining the modus operandi of both individuals and groups;
 - d. Acquaintance with the motivation of both individuals and groups; and
 - e. Acquaintance, awareness and knowledge of geographic range of both individuals and groups.
4. Were there differences between the protective purposes and the practicality of protective operations?
 - a. Manpower to perform necessary procedures?
 - b. Considerations for legal and political rights?
 - c. Lack of cooperation and coordination with other agencies?
 - d. Access to desired information?

5. In what manner and with what emphasis did the Field Office/White House Detail concern itself with Presidential protection and security?
 - a. Coordination with White House Detail Advance Agent?
 - b. Nature and thoroughness of discussion with Secret Service senior officers regarding effectiveness of intelligence information?
 - c. Nature and thoroughness re the use of liaison contacts?
 - d. Interoffice cooperation and coordination between White House Detail and field agents?
 - e. "Significance" attached to unnullified threats?
 - f. Consideration given high incidents of criminal activities in various cities; e.g., number of shootings, type of weapons used, etc.?
 - g. Consideration given to prior hostile political demonstrations; White House Detail index on local or regional hostile groups?
 - h. The extent to which threats from one region were considered in protective efforts in another region?

6. What procedures were established for the purpose of establishing liaison contacts with other investigative and intelligence agencies?
 - a. FBI
 - b. CIA
 - c. State Department
 - d. National Security Council
 - e. Office of Naval Intelligence

Were these procedures adequate?

What types of interorganizational problems did you experience?

INVESTIGATION INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

Identifying Information:

Name Maurice Martineau

Date 2/1/78

Address 1389 Canterbury Lane

Place Amer #2

City/State Rockville, Md

Telephone _____

Date of Birth _____

M or S _____

Social Security _____

Spouse _____

Children _____

Physical Description:

Height _____

Color Eyes _____ Hair _____

Weight _____

Special Characteristics _____

Ethnic Group _____

Personal History:

a. Present Employment: retired from Secret Service

Address see above

Telephone (301) 424-4704

b. Criminal Record

1. Arrests _____

2. Convictions _____

Additional Personal Information:

a. Relative(s): Name _____

Address _____

b. Area frequented: _____

c. Remarks: Travels extensively in Europe & U.S.

Investigator J.P. Kelly & Lee Mathews

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

Name Maurice Martineau Date 2/1/78 Time _____
 Address 1389 Canterbury Place House Annex 2
Rockville, Maryland

Interview:

On February 1, 1978, the writers interviewed subject in Room 3460 at House Annex #2 in connection with his activities as acting head of the Chicago office of the Secret Service in 1963.

Martineau told us that he retired in 1972 after 32 years with the Secret Service and has been travelling on tours to Europe and the United States. He recently received a telephone call from Robert Goff, Counsel for the Secret Service, which alerted him to the Committee's need to interview him.

He told us that at the time he left the Service, he had been assigned to the Inspection Division as an Inspector. In that capacity, almost all of his time was occupied with the Inspection of Field Offices and personnel to determine if they were in compliance with Secret Service regulations. He would visit field offices around the country on a rotational basis and confer with the SACs about any internal problems. He would

Interviewer Signature _____

Typed Signature James Kelly / Lee Matthews

Date transcribed 2/22/78

By: mcp Form #4-A

Maurice Martineau Interview

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review a representative number of files in each office and determine if cases were being handled properly. He would then interview all of the agents "to see if they had any beefs to unload." Visual inspection of the physical plant and equipment issued would also be undertaken. These visits would take 2 - 3 weeks. Martineau would then return to Headquarters in Washington and write up the report of inspection. Recommendations would be made by the Inspecting Agent. Martineau agreed that an Inspector for Secret Service was usually a senior agent and had or developed a great knowledge of workings of the Service. He functioned as an Inspector from 1969 until he retired in 1972. In his tenure, he covered about one half of the 65 field offices.

In 1954, Martineau was Special Agent in Charge of the offices in Grand Rapids, Michigan. In 1955, he went to Milwaukee, Wisconsin as SAC and remained in that position until 1961, at which time he was transferred to Kansas City, Missouri.

In February 1963, he was sent to Chicago as Assistant Special Agent in Charge. The head man in the office was James Burke who was listed as Acting Special Agent in Charge. Burke was shortly thereafter transferred to Detroit and John Handley

Maurice Martineau Interview

Page 3

was sent to Chicago as Special Agent in Charge (SAC). After a while, Handley left for Paris, France but Martineau remained as Assistant Special Agent in Charge.

Martineau made no secret of his dislike for Special Agent John Handley. After Handley left Mike Torino was sent to Chicago as SAC.

Martineau told us that in a city the size and complexity of Chicago, there is no way you can cover every contingency. He went into detail to describe for us the close relationship which existed between the Secret Service and the Chicago Police Department on Presidential protection, particularly the close surveillances. He complained that the Secret Service was always short of agents. He told us about a situation earlier in his career when then Vice President Richard Nixon visited a small town in the northern peninsula of Michigan. Martineau and the local police chief were the only "protectors" for Nixon.

Martineau said that he was in Chicago when President John F. Kennedy made a visit prior to November 1963. He could not recall the precise date. "We got a telephone threat. The caller was not identified, that Kennedy was going to be killed when he got to Jackson Street. We adjusted the routine to rely

Maurice Martineau Interview

Page 4

on the Chicago police to cover the area. The threat did not materialize," he said. Martineau said that if a threat came to SS field offices, even if it came anonymously, it was reported to Headquarters in Washington. Protective Research Service (PRS) would be notified. They are now called Protective Research Division (PRD). If the threat came by letter it was sent to PRS for fingerprint analysis and phraseology studies.

We asked Martineau about threats against JFK in Chicago area November 1963. Martineau visibly stiffened. "I can recall no threat that was significant enough to cause me to recollect it at this time" he said. In contrast to the wealth of detail which flooded his earlier recollections, his answers became vague and less responsive.

He told us that just prior to a Presidential visit, there would be a meeting of the office agents and detail assignments would be handed out. In the instance of the President's intended visit on November 2, 1963, Martineau did not recall any particular surveillance involving Cuban or Latin types, nor did he recall any all-night interrogation of any suspects in the Chicago office.

Martineau recalled nothing about the Mosely information until we read a portion of a Secret Service memo (q.v.) written

Maurice Martineau Interview

Page 5

by SA Ed Tucker (and which Martineau signed as "Approved by") which outlined the SS 1963 interest in Mosely, whom it appears was an informant. He only recalled that Mosely was a "police buff, a James Bond type who knew where there was a stock of automatic weapons which some Cubans were trying to buy. "They were Chicago bus drivers. I remember I gave some kind of an award, you know, a 'good citizen' type certificate in my office to Mosely and he insisted that his son be present at the ceremony. But I don't know what happened in connection with the information and at no time do I recall talking to the FBI about it. The only time I had a problem with the FBI was in connection with a counterfeiting case. A Vito Zaccanini turned himself in to the sheriff in Rockford, Ill. We needed to talk to him but he would only talk to the FBI".

Martineau briefly discussed the SS filing system as he recalled it. Chicago office files were prefaced by 2-1+#. While the prefix "CO" indicated a Chief's office or Washington file and CO+S meant special.

Washington Headquarters would issue the actual # on these. All Presidential threats were CO#'s. S (Special) could appear on office files which meant that copy sent to Washington.

While the writers did not ask Mr. Martineau flat out if he knew about the circumstances which former agent Bolden men-

tioned to us in his Chicago interview (q.v.) we did question him obliquely about the matter of Thomas Arthur Vallee and the alleged Cuban/Latin types which Bolden mentioned. The paucity of documents in this case make it difficult to pin down a witness on details or even^u recollection of past events which the Service seems to treat as a "non-event".

Martineau should be reinterviewed as any supporting documents come to light which touch on Presidential threats in Chicago since during/between October 25 - November 2, 1963.

He did remember SA Tom Kelly calling from Dallas - 11/23/63 - regarding Oswald's rifle ordered from Klein's in Chicago. He said in those days the Secret Service in Chicago was not open on weekends so Kelly called him at home. He then called SA Tom Strong and asked him to check Klein's Sporting Goods for information on the rifle. Strong told him that the FBI had beaten them to Klein's and got the records.

We showed Martineau a picture of Thomas Arthur Vallee, who was arrested in Chicago by CPD on information from Secret Service. He didn't recognize the pictures and had no present recollection of a case like Vallee.

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE
TREASURY DEPARTMENT

SS/PRR

| | | |
|--|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| IN Field | OFFICE Chicago | FILE NO CO-2-34,030 |
| TITLE OR CAPTION | LEE HARVEY OSWALD | |
| STATUS | Investigation continued | |
| ASSASSINATION MADE AT | PERIOD COVERED | Assassination of President Kennedy |
| Chicago, Illinois | 11/25-11/29/63 | |
| ASSASSINATION MADE BY | | |
| Special Agents Edward Z. Tucker and Joseph E. Hoonan | | |

SUMMARY

A white male, American, of unknown reliability, in December 1963, had been attempting to negotiate a sale of machine guns to a Cuban revolutionary whose name is known. The Cuban is alleged to have made a comment the day before the assassination of President Kennedy that "we now have plenty of money - our new backers are Jews - as soon as we (or they) take care of Kennedy"

The Cuban advised the American that before any deals could be consummated the Cuban superiors would have to approve the American and satisfy themselves that he was not a CIA agent.

Discussion with the security agencies on this matter resulted in a conclusion that inasmuch as the investigation reflected a threat to President Johnson, who has announced his intention of continuing the late President's policies, the Secret Service would have primary jurisdiction in the case and that we would keep the other security agencies informed. Subsequently, at the direction of the Secret Service, the American contacted the Cuban and an arrangement was made to meet the Cuban's superiors. The Cuban was identified as belonging to the 30th of November Group. (This group was primarily interested, at least in the Chicago area, in obtaining money and disseminating propaganda of anti-Castro nature. It was the consensus of other security agencies that it was doubtful this 30th of November Group would be involved in illegal activities.) The American and the Cuban discussed the policies of President Johnson during their meetings, and the Cuban described President Johnson as a common person who would get things done. The Cuban stated that President Kennedy was an intellectual.

#1820

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|-----------|----------------------|---|-----------------|
| COPIES | REPORT MADE BY | 1820 | DATE |
| | APPROVED | /s/ Edward Z. Tucker SPECIAL AGENT /s/ Joseph E. Hoonan | 12-3-63 |
| last page | Maurice G. Martineau | Acting SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | 1820 12-3-63 |

a rich man's son who "did not give a damn about people," while President Johnson would work with the people. In any case, the Cuban stated that President Johnson would not stand in their way.

A few days later the American was informed by the Cuban and another unknown Cuban that he was a member of a group of six persons and that they had one "banker". Two of the members of this group owned a small screw machine factory. (It should be noted at this point that automatic weapons can readily be obtained as souvenirs if the barrels have been plugged, and it is the practice of gun runners to obtain these plugged weapons, take them to an unscrupulous screw machine operator and have the barrels reamed out since the plugging is mainly lead.) The American informed the two Cubans that since the assassination of President Kennedy a great deal of "heat" had been created and that his party was willing to provide the guns to the Cubans for a nominal downpayment if the Cuban group could provide them with the responsible party in the Chicago area who would reach that the remainder of the money would be paid to them after the deal had been consummated. The American informed the Cubans that his group was saving six guns, and should they be double-crossed they intended to take retribution.

The investigation continued some time, with the Cuban and the American meeting regularly and discussing the possible purchase of guns and ammunition for the Cuban. At no time did any of the conversation between the American and the Cuban reflect that the activities in which the Cubans were engaged in any way had any connection with the assassination of President Kennedy. None of the persons involved in this investigation had any connection with the assassination, nor was there any indication that any of the persons involved had any information concerning the assassination of President Kennedy. The investigation is continuing along lines other than that involved in the assassination.

DISTRIBUTION:

- Chief Orig. & lcc
- Miami 2 cc
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- Chicago 2 cc

1820

CC-2- 11-23-63

p.m. on 11-22-63 to 5:00 a.m. on 11-23-63 and had taken with them the original microfilm of the envelope from A. Hidell and the order blank.

At 1:20 p.m., Special Agent Griffiths telephoned Special Agent Robert A. Stewart and Special Agent Phillips at the Dallas office. They were apprised of the information received from Mr. Waldman. They requested that the Chicago office make a full investigation and advise them of any additional facts learned.

At 1:35 p.m., Acting SAIC Maurice G. Martineau was advised by telephone of the developments.

At 1:40 p.m., Special Agent Griffiths telephoned Postal Inspector Glenn Knight of the Chicago Postal Inspection Service. He was requested to furnish all information possible on the money order involved in this case.

At approximately 1:45 p.m., on 11-23-63, Special Agent Tucker arrived at Klein's Sporting Goods and began an interview of William J. Waldman, Vice President. Waldman advised Special Agent Tucker that the FBI had been at his place of business from approximately 10:00 p.m. on 11-22-63, until approximately 5:00 a.m. on 11-23-63 and also that he, Waldman, had given the original microfilm of records pertaining to the mail order sale of the suspected murder weapon to Special Agent Robert J. Bolen, FBI, and that Bolen had allegedly departed Chicago for Washington, D. C. on the morning of 11-23-63 apparently to hand deliver the microfilm to the FBI Laboratory for analysis.

It should be noted at this point that Waldman kept reiterating that he had allegedly been instructed by the FBI not to discuss this investigation with anyone, and it was necessary for Special Agent Tucker and subsequently also Special Agent Griffiths when he joined Special Agent Tucker at Klein's Sporting Goods to point out to Waldman that the U. S. Secret Service has primary jurisdiction in a case of this nature and we had definite interest.

Waldman advised that his firm had received an envelope postmarked Dallas March 12, 1963, bearing a return address of "A. Hidell, P. O. Box 2915, Dallas, Texas" and in the envelope was enclosed an order blank which had appeared in the "American Rifleman" issue of February, 1963. This order blank reflected that the suspected murder weapon had been ordered by catalogue number C-20-T750 and in addition to the suspected murder weapon, a 4 power scope and mount had been mailed parcel post to A. Hidell on 3-20-63.

Klein's order blank reflected that the purchase price of the rifle, the scope, and mount was \$19.95 and for the parcel post and handling there was a charge of \$1.50 making a total cost of \$21.45.

At approximately 2:50 p.m. on 11-23-63, Special Agent Edward Z. Tucker telephoned Acting SAIC Maurice G. Martineau, Chicago, and was advised by Acting SAIC Martineau that it was of the utmost urgency that we determine the manufacturer of the weapon; if any serial number appeared on the scope; and any other pertinent information. Acting SAIC Martineau instructed Special Agent Tucker that as soon as he could obtain this information, he should call Dallas immediately and should also prepare on this same date, a confirming O/M of the telephone call setting forth the highlights of this investigation.

As noted by Special Agent Griffiths above, Waldman was almost certain that the payment of the rifle, scope and mount had been made by money order, but he could not be positive that it was a postal money order. Waldman did furnish a copy of Klein's bank deposits to the First National Bank of Chicago for the date of 3-15-63.

It is noted that in the column of deposits, which according to Waldman represented money orders, there was an item for \$21.45. Waldman also pointed out the bank had listed the date of this deposit as 2-15-63; however, Waldman stated that the bank had definitely made a mistake on this date, but at that point, Waldman had no way of proving it.

At 2:58 p.m., Special Agent Griffiths joined Special Agent Tucker at Klein's Sporting Goods and were able to further determine that the weapon which was mailed by Klein's on 3-20-63 was an Italian carbine, 6.5 calibre (.256"), a model 1891 troop special, bolt action carbine, serial No. C-2766.

Waldman further advised and made available a copy of his inventory list that Klein's had received the suspected murder weapon on 2-22-63 in a shipment from Crescent Firearms Inc., 2 West 37th Street, New York 18, New York, and the number VC-856 which appeared on the order blank reflecting the filling of the order and which also appears on the inventory list of Klein's is a cross reference to serial number C-2766.

Waldman further advised that he was "...99.6% positive..." that the scope did not have a serial number and that Klein's received the scopes and mounts from Martin R. Retting, Inc., 11029-33 Washington Blvd., Culver City, California. Waldman and Mitchell Westra, an administrative aide to Waldman, further advised that Retting, Inc. was only an importer of these items and that the manufacturer was unknown.

Special Agent Griffiths, in examining sample mounts, determined that apparently these mounts are manufactured in Japan and in conversation with Westra, Special Agent Griffiths was advised that upon receipt of the mounts, Klein's usually had their own modifications made before the mounts were sold.

CO-2-24, 230

Westra turned over to the agents a sample of each of the three types of modified scope mounts which were used on weapons of the type involved in this investigation. The samples were initialed and dated by Special Agent Griffiths.

Westra also advised that behind the middle sight of the suspected murder weapon there should be the name of one of four cities in Italy where this particular weapon is manufactured. These four cities are Turin; Brescia; Gardone; and Terni.

The agents then departed Klein's Sporting Goods at 3:15 p.m. and arrived at the Chicago office at 3:30 p.m.

It should be noted that Acting SAIC Martineau had instructed an O/M containing the information developed should be forwarded to Dallas and the Chief's Office forthwith.

Special Agent Griffiths telephoned Captain Fosco, U. S. Air Force, O'Hare Field, Chicago, and learned that no military aircraft were available to transport the samples and O/M to Dallas.

Special Agent Griffiths then telephoned Miss James, Braniff Airlines, and made arrangements for the material to be transported to Dallas in the care of Captain Don Hurst on Braniff Flight 59 leaving Chicago at 6:50 p.m. and arriving at Dallas at 8:55 p.m.

At 3:46 p.m., the agents telephoned Special Agents Peterson and Phillips at Dallas and advised them that the material would be arriving on Braniff Flight 59.

At 5:22 p.m., Special Agent Griffiths attempted to contact POI Knight by telephone. He was unavailable.

At 6:30 p.m., Special Agent Griffiths delivered the material destined for Dallas to Captain Hurst at O'Hare Field.

At 7:30 p.m., Special Agent Griffiths reached POI Knight by telephone and was advised that the money order apparently involved in this case would have been sent to the Federal Postal Money Order Center at Kansas City, Kansas. Mr. Knight said he thought that Kansas City Postal Inspectors were attempting to locate the money order.

Acting SAIC Martineau, Chicago, was advised of the information from POI Knight. He requested that Special Agent Griffiths relay the information to SAIC Kroz, Kansas City.

CO-2-34550

SAIC Mroz, Kansas City, was telephoned at 7:45 p.m. and asked to make sure that Postal Inspectors were attempting to locate the money order. SAIC Mroz was given all information developed in Chicago to that date.

At 7:55 p.m., Special Agent Griffiths telephoned Special Agent Stewart in Dallas and advised him that SAIC Mroz was trying to ascertain the status of the money order in Kansas City. During the course of the conversation with Special Agent Stewart, Special Agent Griffiths was told that the money order had been recovered by Postal Inspectors and was being forwarded to the Assistant Chief of the U. S. Secret Service.

At 8:00 p.m., SAIC Mroz was again telephoned and advised that the money order had been recovered.

It should be noted that the copies of the documents mentioned above as follows:

- (1) Copy of envelope postmarked Dallas March 12, 1963, addressed to Klein's Sporting Goods, Chicago, and bearing return address of A. Hidell, P. O. Box 2915, Dallas, Texas, with enclosed order blank from "American Rifleman".
- (2) Copy of order blank from Klein's Sporting Goods reflecting Italian carbine 6.5 MM with 4 power scope and mount forwarded to A. Hidell 3-20-63.
- (3) Copy of Klein's deposit slips to the First National Bank of Chicago for 3-15-63.
- (4) Copy of inventory list of merchandise received by Klein's from Crescent Firearms, Inc. and reflecting inventory number V0836 to be cross referenced to serial No. C-2766.

These were all forwarded to Dallas and the Chief's Office by C/M by Special Agents Griffiths and Tucker on 11-23-63.

(J) CONCLUSION:

This case is closed in Chicago.



Handwritten initials

SAWS STUBBS & WELLS

November 23, 1966

ASAC MARTINEAU - CHICAGO

003566

ADMISSION OF THE SUBJECT

This will confirm long distance telephone call made by Special Agent Edward E. Tucker, Chicago, to Special Agent Robert A. Stuart, Dallas, on 11-23-66, in which SA Tucker advised that he was sending handwriting specimens of one A. Hiddell, P.O. Box 2915, Dallas, Texas, which appeared on an envelope postmarked Dallas, Texas, March 12, 1966, and in which was enclosed a coupon which had appeared in the "American Rifleman," issue of February, 1966, and which had been sent to Wain's Sporting Goods, Chicago Illinois, and reflected that this A. Hiddell had ordered an Italian carbine, caliber 6.5 mm, with M1 scope and mount.

A copy of this handwriting is also being forwarded to the Chief's Office.

Another C/I will be forthcoming on this date and will be forthcoming on this date concerning all details of the telephone conversation between SA's Stuart and Tucker.

Maurice G. Martineau
Maurice G. Martineau
Acting Special Agent in Charge

cc - Chief with a sample of handwriting

003599

Chicago, Illinois
1967

November 27, 1963

JP
W.H.

Mr. Martin W. Johnson
Special Agent in Charge
Federal Bureau of Investigation
536 South Clark Street
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Johnson:

This will confirm my telephone call to you on Tuesday, November 26, 1963 in which I advised you that a confidential informant had reported to me that he had information relating to an anti-Castro Cuban organization and that reports made to him by a member of that group indicated the possibility that that organization could be connected with the assassination of the late President John F. Kennedy; that I was then contacted by Mr. Washington Headquarters to provide you with all pertinent information relating to this matter; that, inasmuch as this is an organization considered a threat against President John F. Johnson, it was the feeling of my Headquarters Office that your Bureau and the U. S. Secret Service should collaborate in a joint investigation with a complete exchange of information relating to this matter.

This will also confirm receipt of a return phone call from you on November 26, 1963 in which you stated that you had assigned Special Agents Bob Baker and Will Rogers of your office to this investigation. I then advised you of the time and place your Special Agents could meet with the informant and Special Agents Edward Treher and Joseph Brown of the U. S. Secret Service.

I have been informed by Special Agents Treher and Brown that the meeting was held; that, after speaking with the informant, your Special Agent Baker said that this was primarily a protective matter and that continued investigation would be left to the U. S. Secret Service. This statement was later repeated by Special Agent Rogers.

If there is any conflict between the above and your understanding of our joint investigation, please so advise me.

Very truly yours,

Walter G. Martinson

Walter G. Martinson
Acting Special Agent in Charge

BCC: Chief

W.H.

003668

Files:

Attached SS Control No. 336 (8 pages) has been classified as CONFIDENTIAL by the Secret Service. Please insert this in CD 87 and destroy unclassified similar pages.

Helen Tarko
10-17-64

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE
TREASURY DEPARTMENT

336 COST
336
Wim

| | | |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ORIGIN Field | OFFICE Chicago | FILE NO. CO-2-31,030 |
| TYPE OF CASE | STATUS | TITLE OR CAPTION |
| Protective Research | Investigation Continued | LEE HARVEY OSWALD |
| INVESTIGATION MADE AT | PERIOD COVERED | Assassination of President Kennedy |
| Chicago, Illinois | 11/26 - 11/29/63 | |
| INVESTIGATION MADE BY | | |
| Special Agents Edward Z. Tucker and Joseph E. Noonan | | |

SYNOPSIS

Informant 2-1-266 has advised that one Thomas Mosley has been in touch with a group of Chicago Cubans who may be involved in the assassination of the late President John F. Kennedy. Also, that this Cuban group is endeavoring to purchase through Mosley a variety of automatic weapons and explosives.

DECLASSIFIED (D)
E.O. 11652, Sec 5
Inventory Dept. 12/23/77
By M/hg NARS 1/16

INTRODUCTION

Reference is made to the office memorandum to the Chief from Acting SAIC Maurice G. Martineau, Chicago, dated November 26, 1963, under file No. 2-1-611.0. That memorandum, confirming a long distance telephone call to Deputy Chief Paul J. Paterni, Washington, D. C., verified that this matter had been discussed with Deputy Chief Paterni, who had directed that inasmuch as this information related to the assassination of the late President Kennedy, and that this information also could involve the protection of President Lyndon B. Johnson, that all information developed by the U. S. Secret Service should be made available to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and that a joint investigation should be conducted with an exchange of reports and a free flow of information.

For the information of all offices concerned, 2-1-266 advised on November 26, 1963, that he had heard that one Tom Mosley allegedly had been attempting to negotiate a sale of machine guns to one Hector S. Echevarria, and that Echevarria allegedly made a comment the day before the assassination of President John F. Kennedy that "we now have plenty of money -- our new backers are Jews -- as soon as 'we' (or 'they') take care of Kennedy...."

| | | | |
|---------------|--------|--|---------|
| DISTRIBUTION | COPIES | REPORT MADE BY | DATE |
| | | Edward Z. Tucker, Special Agent Joseph E. Noonan | 12-3-63 |
| see last page | | APPROVED | DATE |
| | | Maurice G. Martineau Acting Special Agent in Charge | 12-3-63 |

GENERAL INQUIRIES

On November 26, 1963, at the Chicago Police Department, inquiries were made regarding Thomas Mosley @ Tom, and Homer S. Echevarria @ Homero Samuel Valdivia Echevarria; however, no record could be found for either one of these men.

On November 26, 1963, 2-1-266 advised that he believed that Thomas Mosley and Homer Echevarria, described below, were going to attend a meeting in order to negotiate for the sale of automatic weapons to Echevarria's group.

On the evening of November 26, 1963, 2-1-266 met with Special Agents Joseph E. Noonan and Edward Z. Tucker, U. S. Secret Service, and Special Agents Walt Rogers and Bob Eaker, FBI, Chicago. 2-1-266 stated that Mosley allegedly had approached Echevarria some time in September 1963 on the possibility of Echevarria's being able to use some machine guns which Mosley could supply, in order that Echevarria's group of Cubans could invade Cuba. 2-1-266 advised that the day before President Kennedy was assassinated Mosley again had approached Echevarria about the purchase of these machine guns, at which time Echevarria allegedly stated, "We now have plenty of money -- our new backers are Jews -- as soon as 'we' (or 'they') take care of Kennedy...." 2-1-266 also alleged that Echevarria advised Mosley that before any deals could be consummated, Echevarria's superiors would have to approve Mosley and satisfy themselves that he was not a CIA agent.

2-1-266 advised that Mosley and Echevarria were going to have a meeting on the evening of November 26, 1963, for the purpose of introducing Mosley to Echevarria's superiors. However, it was subsequently learned that Mosley attempted to telephone Echevarria and it was determined that Echevarria was working and Mosley could not get in touch with him.

After 2-1-266 had departed, in a discussion between Special Agent Noonan, Secret Service, and FBI Agents Rogers and Eaker, it was concluded by Special Agent Eaker that inasmuch as this investigation reflected a threat to President Johnson, who has announced his intention of continuing the late President Kennedy's policies, the Secret Service should have primary jurisdiction in this case but that we should keep the FBI informed of our investigation.

Subsequently, on this same evening, 2-1-266 advised that Thomas Mosley had telephoned Echevarria, and that Echevarria had directed Mosley to meet him at Echevarria's house at 12:00 o'clock noon on November 28, 1963, at which time Mosley and Echevarria were going to meet Echevarria's superiors, who would confer with Mosley.

On November 27, 1963, Special Agents Noonan and Tucker proceeded to the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Main Post Office Building, Chicago, Illinois, to check the files of that agency in the name of Homer S. Echevarria. It was determined that Homer Samuel Echevarria had entered the United States on July 6, 1960 at Miami, Florida, via Cubana Airlines flight No. 803. This file also reflected that Echevarria's alien number is A 12 236 480.

The file showed that upon entry to the United States, Echevarria had indicated that he was going to work for the C. J. Simpson Drilling Company at Dallas, Texas, and that he intended to live at 10353 Denton Drive, in Dallas.

The file also reflected that Echevarria had been living with one Alejandro Bienes, No. 159 Zoga Del Morio, Las Villas, Cuba, and that Echevarria's wife's maiden name is Teresita Del Nino Jesus, Castellanos Guitierrez. According to the file, Echevarria has one son named Evelio Carlos Echevarria, and Echevarria's parents are listed as father, Evelio, and mother, Ofelia Valdivia. The file also reflected that Echevarria had belonged to the Union of Socio de Vocal y Numerario.

The file showed that Echevarria had moved from Miami to Dallas, Texas; from Dallas to 428 Wildwood Drive, Apartment 3, Jackson, Michigan; and then to 140 East Chicago Road, Jonesville, Michigan (while in Jonesville he allegedly worked for the J. E. Wagstaff Company). He then lived at 1204-A Quintard Avenue, Anniston, Alabama. On July 23, 1961 he allegedly was living at 4908 West Superior Street, Chicago, Illinois; he then lived at 2555 North Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. A confidential source advised that Echevarria now resides at 2301 North Albany Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Investigation has established that Echevarria's telephone, No. 278-2922, was installed on September 24, 1963. No toll calls have been made from that phone.

On November 27, 1963, Special Agents Noonan and Tucker proceeded to the Chicago office of the FBI and conferred with FBI Agent Walt Rogers. A copy of the photograph of Echevarria, appearing in the files of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, was given to Agent Rogers. During this interview Agent Rogers advised that he knew Evelio Echevarria prior to this date, and that that very morning he had been introduced to Homer Echevarria. This meeting took place at a grocery store located at 2351 West North Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. Agent Rogers advised that this grocery store was owned by Cubans and was a favorite meeting place for these people. He stated that the meeting with Homer Echevarria was by chance, and that he was introduced as an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Agent Rogers believed that since he had met Homer Echevarria that very morning, he, Rogers, should probably stay in the background of this investigation.

Special Agent Rogers stated that from the information provided by an interview with 2-1-266 on the previous night, it was his belief that the organization to which Echevarria belonged was the 30th of November group; and that this group was primarily interested, at least in the Chicago area, in obtaining money and disseminating propaganda of an anti-Castro nature. From his conversation it appeared that the Bureau had reliable information

regarding the activities of this group. It was also felt by Special Agent Rogers that it was highly doubtful that this 30th of November group would be involved in illegal activities.

Special Agents Noonan and Tucker pointed out to Special Agent Rogers that, since they had not been briefed on the activities of Cuban groups in the Chicago area, it would be left to his agency to determine if and when this investigation involved matters of domestic security, and that the U. S. Secret Service should be notified if this developed. In the absence of such notification the investigation would continue, if warranted.

On the same date, a confidential source advised that Teresita Echevarria was employed at the Wells Gardner Company, 2701 North Kildare Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

On November 28, 1963, Special Agent Tucker telephoned the FBI and advised that 2-1-266 was going to meet agents of this Service at approximately 3:30 p.m. to advise of any meetings between Tom Mosley and Homer Echevarria. Although Special Agent Rogers, FBI, could not be contacted at this time, Special Agent Tucker was subsequently advised that the FBI would not be at this meeting with 2-1-266 and that they would rely on this Service and its findings.

On November 28, 1963, at approximately 11:55 a.m., Special Agent Noonan observed suspect Thomas Mosley arrive in his personal automobile at the residence of Homer Echevarria. As previously agreed, the surveillance was discontinued at this point. This action was decided upon because the area in which Echevarria resides is heavily populated, and it is highly probable that if a vehicular surveillance had been attempted the investigation might have been jeopardized.

Subsequently on November 28, 1963, Special Agents Noonan and Tucker met with 2-1-266, at which time he provided the following account of the meeting between Echevarria and Thomas Mosley.

2-1-266 stated that Mosley had gone to Echevarria's residence, at which time Mosley and Echevarria discussed the policies of President Johnson. Echevarria allegedly described President Johnson as a common person who would get things done. Echevarria stated that President Kennedy was an intellectual, a rich man's son who "did not give a damn about people," while President Johnson would work with people. In any case, Echevarria stated that President Johnson would not stand in their way.

Echevarria made a telephone call which he could not complete. He allegedly then asked his wife for the correct number. When this was provided, Echevarria supposedly said, "Oh, I must have been calling the beauty shop." After completing the second call, Echevarria and Mosley departed in Mosley's car.

~~Confidential~~

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Near the intersection of Milwaukee Avenue and Logan Square, Chicago, Illinois, Echevarria told Mosley to pull over and park. After parking, an unnamed Cuban, described below, entered the car. This party dominated the conversation from this point.

This unknown Cuban first asked Mosley what he could provide, to which Mosley stated that he had on hand 100 Sten machine guns, Model 2, 9 mm. parabellum. These he would sell for \$100 apiece. He stated he had ten P-38 machine pistols, 9 mm., which would sell for \$175 apiece, and seven 55 caliber anti-tank rifles. The cost of these also was \$175 apiece, and \$1 per round of ammunition.

The Cuban then asked Mosley if he could obtain material for sabotage, and Mosley told him to write down what he wanted and he would attempt to obtain it. This individual made the following list of items in which he was interested:

- Peutolite
- Detonators of all types
- C-3 explosives
- C-4 explosives
- Fountain pen explosives
- 20 mm. ammunition
- M-3 (it is not known what the Cuban meant by this designation)
- BAR (Browning Automatic Rifles)
- Garant (this might possibly refer to the Garand or the US M-1 rifle)

2-1-266 obtained this list from Mosley's person and it was turned over to this Service, to be processed for whatever fingerprints might be contained thereon.

The unknown Cuban then told Mosley that he was going to ask him two questions, the answers to which would determine whether or not his organization would do business with him. The first question was, "How do you feel about the assassination of President Kennedy?" to which Mosley shrugged his shoulders and said, "It's no skin off my nose either way." The second question was, "Who do you know from Cuba and how can we check up on you?" to which Mosley replied that he knew Michael Ponce (phonetic) and that he, Mosley, had been arrested by the Chicago Police Department for this very same activity in which he was now engaged, and that to verify this all that had to be done was to check the records of the Chicago Police Department. The unknown Cuban stated that he knew Michael Ponce and that the organization to which he belongs would check the records of the Chicago Police Department.

2-1-266 stated that Michael Ponce had formerly been a regular Naval officer in the Cuban Navy under the Dictator Batista, and that he knew that Tom Mosley had been involved in gun-running activities with Ponce in the early 1950's.

2-1-266 stated that the meeting produced the following results. Mosley informed Echevarria and the unknown Cuban that he was a member of a group of six persons, and that they had one "banker." Two of the members of the group owned a small screw machine factory. (It should be noted at this point that automatic weapons can readily be obtained as souvenirs if the barrels have been plugged, and that it is the practice of gun-runners to obtain these plugged weapons, take them to an unscrupulous screw machine operator, and have the barrels reamed out, since the plugging is merely lead.)

Mosley informed the two Cubans that since the assassination of President Kennedy a great deal of "heat" has been created, and that his party was willing to provide the guns to the Cubans for a nominal down payment if the Cuban group could provide them with a responsible party in the Chicago area who would vouch that the remainder of the money would be paid to them after the deal had been consummated. Mosley informed the Cubans that his group was saving six guns, and should they be double-crossed they intended to take retribution.

The unnamed Cuban stated that this deal sounded acceptable to him, and that if Mosley checked out at the police department their organization would get in touch with him through an attorney. This attorney would provide Mosley with a list of equipment which they desired, and all dealings from this point on, between Mosley and the organization, would be handled through the attorney. The unnamed Cuban also stated that the list of equipment would be written in a code which would be taught to Mosley by Homer Echevarria.

Mosley was asked how he could be contacted. He stated that in the past it had been his practice to enter an ad in the personal column of a local newspaper, using the code name, "Black Foot." It was agreed that should this group at any time in the future wish to contact Mosley they would run an ad in the personal column of the Chicago Tribune, which would read, "Black Foot call (a telephone number would be entered) after (a time would be entered)." The unnamed Cuban stated that the telephone number would be a pay phone, which would be covered by either him or a member of his organization for one-half hour before and one-half hour after the time stated in the ad. It would be Mosley's responsibility to contact them within this time. Mosley agreed to this.

Also discussed at the time was the subject of the backers. It is the feeling of 2-1-266 that at least some of the backers of this group are hoodlum elements, and that the backers are not restricted to Chicago.

2-1-266 stated that the unnamed Cuban allegedly is a member of the Student Federation of Revolutionaries.

On November 29, 1963, Special Agent Noonan was contacted by Special Agent Walt Rogers, FBI, and Agent Rogers was briefed on the information received from 2-1-266 on the previous day. Agent Rogers stated that the

Student Federation of Revolutionaries may very possibly be the Student Revolutionary Directorate; and that the unnamed Cuban fit the description of one Francisco Blanco, a representative of this group whom he met at the grocery store located at 2351 West North Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, shortly after his introduction to Homer Echevarria on November 27, 1963.

It was learned from Agent Rogers that Lee Harvey Oswald had attempted to join the Student Revolutionary Directorate in New Orleans; that while Oswald was under consideration by this group, he was observed by members of the group distributing literature for the Fair Play For Cuba Committee; and that, in addition to this, Oswald had taken part in a debate of the Cuban problem against members of the Student Revolutionary Directorate.

Agent Rogers stated, in regard to an attorney who might be working with the Student Revolutionary Directorate, that one Paulino Sierra, an attorney in the Chicago area who became interested in the anti-Castro movement, could possibly be the contact for Tom Mosley. Agent Rogers stated that Sierra has claimed to have a great deal of financial backing and has attempted to organize the great number of anti-Castro movements in this country. There are allegations that the financial backing of Sierra is hoodlum money, but that Sierra has denied this and states that his backers are American businessmen.

Through a confidential source the name of anyone making inquiries at the Chicago Police Department regarding Thomas Mosley will immediately be made available to this Service. It should be noted that this source is extremely reliable and fully aware of the importance of secrecy in this investigation.

SUSPECTS

HOMER S. ECHEVARRIA @ Homero Samuel Valdivia Echevarria - white; male; Cuban; 32 years; born at Jatibonico, Camaguary, Cuba; 5'9"; 160 pounds; black hair; mustache; olive complexion; a bus driver for the Chicago Transit Authority; resides at 2301 North Albany Avenue, Chicago, Illinois; drives a 1957 red Chevrolet, 1963 Illinois license LP 1660.

THOMAS MOSLEY @ Tom - white; male; American; 40 years; 6 feet; 180 pounds; black hair; mustache; usually wears a bow tie; a bus driver for the Chicago Transit Authority; resides at 1400 West Summerdale Avenue, Chicago, Illinois; drives a 1960 black Thunderbird, 1963 Illinois license 742 968.

UNKNOWN CUBAN - white; male; about 30 to 32 years of age; approximately 5'7"; 170 pounds; black hair; dark, clear complexion; heavy build.

[Handwritten signature]

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UNDEVELOPED LEADS

It is anticipated that an undercover special agent will be introduced by informant 2-1-266 to Tom Nosley, and that this agent will be present at whatever meetings may take place in the future between Nosley and the Cuban group.

Copies of this report are being sent to the Miami office for a check of Immigration files, as that was Homer Echevarria's port of entry.

Additional copies are being sent to Dallas, Detroit, Grand Rapids, and Birmingham with the request that investigation be made at Echevarria's places of residence and employment, as stated above, in the districts of said offices and that background information on the suspect be obtained.

Copies of this report are also being forwarded to the Springfield office with the request that they make an investigation at the Bureau of Motor Vehicles regarding Echevarria's car. If at all possible, the entire history of this car should be obtained.

Investigation is continued in Chicago for further contacts with 2-1-266 relative to additional meetings between the several suspects.

DISTRIBUTION:

- Chief ✓ Orig. & 1 cc
- Miami 2 cc's
- Dallas 2 cc's
- Detroit 2 cc's
- Grand Rapids 2 cc's
- Birmingham 2 cc's
- Springfield 2 cc's
- FBI, Chicago 1 cc
- Chicago 2 cc's

DECLASSIFIED (D)
EO 13526
Jr. [unclear] 12/23/15
by [unclear] 1/14/26

U.S. Secret Service

Chief

AIRMAIL

November 25, 1963

ASAC Martinez, Chicago

003571

Lee H. Oswald

This will confirm my long distance telephone call to Assistant Chief E. Wildy on this date relative to an inquiry made of me by Special Agent Vernon Smith, FBI, Chicago, regarding an investigation made by us at the Leslie Holding Co., 11241 N. Halrose, Chicago, Illinois.

It was explained to Chief Wildy that on November 23 I received a long distance phone call from SA Phillips, Dallas, who stated that he was calling for SA James Cooner, Intelligence Division, Treasury Department; that SA Cooner requested that I contact SA A. J. Edwards, 722 So. Highland Ave., Barrington, Ill. That in the event I was unable to reach Mr. Edwards I should endeavor to contact SA James H. Parker who was in Chicago and could be reached at the Palmer House Hotel. That I was to direct Mr. Edwards or Mr. Parker to contact Mr. Carter H. Leslie through telephone number RE 2-7726 in Chicago and arrange through Mr. Leslie to have Mr. Parker examine payroll checks issued through the Fort Worth, Texas branch of the Leslie Holding Company; that Mr. Parker was to examine such checks for the purpose of determining information apparent from the check endorsers, was to obtain photocopies of all such checks and immediately thereafter was to telephone Mr. Cooner at Dallas, Texas, phone number RI 9-3461.

I was unable to reach Mr. Edwards but did succeed in contacting Mr. Parker at the Palmer House Hotel and I gave to Mr. Parker the instructions from Mr. Cooner as given to me by SA Phillips. Mr. Parker stated that he had no transportation and I offered an agent and an automobile for his use. I instructed SA Thomas G. Strong to proceed immediately to the Palmer House Hotel and contact Mr. Parker in Room 1050. Mr. Parker subsequently telephoned me to advise that he had been in touch with Mr. Carter H. Leslie who had told him that the only company executive who would have access to the payroll records was out of town but that he would arrange for his immediate return. I also received a subsequent phone call from Mr. Edwards and I advised him of Mr. Cooner's directive and that I had given those directions to Mr. Parker for execution.

It was subsequently told by SA Strong that he and Mr. Parker had gone to the Leslie Holding Company where the payroll checks of Lee H. Oswald were examined and photocopies obtained; that copies of these records

together with 13 original checks and a copy of Oswald's W-2 form had been obtained by Mr. Parker and that the latter had telephoned pertinent information to Mr. Cooner at Dallas, Texas.

On November 25, I received a telephone call from SA Verran Smith, FBI, Chicago, who asked me if we had advised his office of an investigation being conducted by us at the Local Welding Company. I told him that we had not so advised the local office of the FBI. He then asked me if we were in fact, conducting such investigation relative to Lee H. Oswald. I told Mr. Smith that I didn't feel we should discuss this matter over the telephone and invited him to call on me at my office for further discussion. I then placed a long distance telephone call to Assistant Chief E. Kildy and requested instructions as to what information should be given to the FBI. Chief Kildy subsequently returned my call and stated that the complete story outlined above should be given to the FBI and it should be explained to SA Smith that we had not previously advised them of this information inasmuch as the inquiry was being conducted by the Intelligence Division of the Treasury Department and we had no way of evaluating the information nor being able to determine that it was sufficiently pertinent to warrant immediate notification to other agencies.

I was subsequently interviewed in person by SA Smith and I gave him a detailed account of our participation in this investigation as outlined above. I was not asked by him as to why we had not given this information to the FBI and I volunteered no comment in that respect. It was explained to him that this office worked only as a contact between Mr. Cooner of Treasury Intelligence in Dallas and SA James S. Parker of Mr. Cooner's staff who was in Chicago; that after I had established contact with Mr. Parker, in accordance with Mr. Cooner's request, and had given to Mr. Parker the directive of SA Cooner, I volunteered to provide Mr. Parker with an agent and an automobile inasmuch as Mr. Parker had no transportation. Consequently, the Chicago office of the Secret Service in this particular instance, served only as a relay center for Mr. Cooner's message to Mr. Parker and thereafter provided transportation facilities to Mr. Parker.

I also told SA Smith that further inquiry of this Service at the Dallas level could be made through Inspector Thomas Kelley, now in Dallas, Texas.

The above information will be confirmed by a memorandum to be submitted by SA Strong on his return to Chicago from his temporary assignment in Washington, D.C. on which he is now engaged.

2 cc's - files
~~Inspector Kelley~~
1 cc - Inspector Kelley (Dallas)

Harice H. Hartman,
Acting Special Agent in Charge

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE
 TREASURY DEPARTMENT

003572

CD-87
[Handwritten signature]

ORIGIN Dallas 11-23-63 HP OFFICE Chicago, Illinois FILE NO. CO-2-34030

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| TYPE OF CASE <u>Protective Research</u> | STATUS <u>Closed</u> | TITLE OR CAPTION <u>A. Hidell</u> |
| INVESTIGATION MADE AT <u>Chicago, Illinois</u> | PERIOD COVERED <u>11-23-63</u> | <u>ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT</u> |
| INVESTIGATION MADE BY <u>Special Agents James S. Griffiths & Edward Tucker</u> | | |

DETAILS

SYNOPSIS

Investigation in Chicago shows that A. Hidell, P. O. Box 2915, Dallas, Texas, ordered an Italian carbine equipped with telescopic sight from Klein's Sporting Goods, Chicago, on 3-12-63. Carbine C-2766 was shipped to A. Hidell on 3-20-63.

Further Chicago investigation shows that the money order involved has been recovered by Postal Inspectors in Kansas City and forwarded to the Assistant Chief's Office of this Service.

Copies of Klein's records and specimen telescopic sight mounts have been forwarded to Dallas, Texas.

(A) INTRODUCTION:

On 11-23-63, information was received from the Dallas office that a military carbine equipped with a telescopic sight which had been sold by Klein's Sporting Goods, Chicago, Illinois, had been used in the assassination of the President on 11-22-63.

(B) GENERAL INQUIRIES:

Upon returning home at 12:35 p.m. (CST), on 11-23-63, Special Agent James S. Griffiths was advised to telephone the Dallas office which was done.

Special Agent Phillips, PRS, then in the Dallas office, requested the Chicago office to develop all possible information on a military carbine equipped with a telescopic sight which had been sold by Klein's Sporting

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|----------------------------|--------------------|---|--------------------|
| DISTRIBUTION (initials) | COPIES Original | REPORT MADE BY <i>[Signature]</i> | DATE <u>103</u> |
| | | SPECIAL AGENT <u>Edward Z. Tucker</u> | <u>11-25-63</u> |
| Dallas | 2 cc | APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i> | DATE |
| Chicago | 3 cc | Acting SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <u>G. Martineau</u> | <u>11-25-63</u> |
| EZT:sjl | | | |

CO-2-1479

Goods in Chicago on or about 3-20-63. Payment was in the form of a \$21.90 money order. The rifle was mailed to P. O. Box 2915, Dallas, Texas.

Special Agent Phillips also requested that all possible information on the money order be developed through the Chicago office of the Postal Inspection Service.

At 12:40 p.m. on the same date, Special Agent James S. Griffiths learned from the Illinois Bell Telephone Company that the main office and warehouse of Klein's Sporting Goods is located at 4540 W. Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois.

At 12:45 p.m., Special Agent Griffiths telephoned Edward Dahlquist, the individual in temporary charge of Klein's Sporting Goods. He was given the information as received from Special Agent Phillips and requested to notify Special Agent Griffiths by telephone. He was also advised to not discuss the case.

At 1:00 p.m., Special Agent Edward Z. Tucker was apprised of the Chicago investigation and proceeded immediately to Klein's Sporting Goods.

At 1:03 p.m., Special Agent Griffiths again telephoned Mr. Dahlquist of Klein's Sporting Goods to learn if the information was available at that time. He said that he had not yet found the appropriate files but had discussed the case with Postal Inspectors approximately five minutes before the original call by Special Agent Griffiths.

At 1:13 p.m., William J. Waldman, Vice President of Klein's Sporting Goods, telephoned Special Agent Griffiths to advise that all records in the case had been turned over to Special Agents of the FBI the night before. Mr. Waldman was told that an agent of the Secret Service was enroute to his firm and Mr. Waldman was requested to give all possible assistance to that agent and to recap the information developed the previous night over the telephone.

Mr. Waldman said that his firm had received a money order believed to have been a postal money order for \$21.45 from A. Hidell. The return address was P. O. Box 2915, Dallas, Texas. The order was postmarked in Dallas on 3-12-63 and had been airmailed.

Mr. Waldman said that the weapon ordered was described as an Italian, rifle, carbine type, 6.5 calibre, with a 4 power telescopic sight, in a 3/4" diameter tube. The serial number of the weapon sent was C-2766.

Mr. Waldman said that agents of the FBI had been at his firm from 10:00

BIOGRAPHY

Forrest V. Sorrels

Retired
Former Special Agent in Charge
Dallas, Texas

Forrest V. Sorrels, former SAIC of the Secret Service Field Office in Dallas, Texas, was the person who handled the Secret Service arrangements with SA Winston Lawson of the White House Detail.

Sorrels headed an office in Dallas consisting of five agents. A sixth agent, Mike Howard, was in residence at Fort Worth. Sorrels was no stranger to Presidential protection, having been involved in the planning for FDR's motorcade in Dallas in 1935. He did two previous protective assignments with President Kennedy in 1961-62 when the President visited Speaker Sam Rayburn at Dallas' Baylor Hospital and for Rayburn's funeral in Bonham, Texas.

Sorrels met the White House political advance man in early November, 1963, and went to several meetings with him. He also first traveled the motorcade route and surveyed the ultimate terminus, the Trade Mart, where conflict had arisen between the political advance man and SS agents about the security arrangements.

Sorrels rode in the motorcade and was the first identified Secret Service Agent to go to the Texas School Book Depository and conduct an investigation.

He was present when the first eyewitnesses were questioned and sat in on the questioning of Oswald and Ruby.

Sorrels was questioned extensively by the Warren Commission and gave them affidavits in connection with his duties in Dallas.

He bluntly refused to be interviewed in Dallas recently when contacted by the staff of this Committee.

OUTSIDE CONTACT REPORT

005439

DATE 2/7/78 TIME 7:10p.

I. Identifying Information:

Name FORREST SORRELS Telephone Home: 368-8371
Bus: 747-1009Address 3319 HANOVER, DALLAS, TEXASType of Contact: Telephone
 Person

II. Summary of Contact:

I called Forrest Sorrels, former agent in charge
Secret Service, Dallas office, now retired, to try to
arrange for an interview. I told Mr. Sorrels who I was
and asked him if we could arrange for an interview.

He was very abrupt, stating, "If you want to know what I
have to say, read my testimony in the Warren Commission Report.
I have nothing to add or detract from that."
He then told me that he would not talk with me and before I could say anything
else, he stated, "That's all I have to say" and he hung up.

I did not pursue the matter, not wanting to
cause an incident.

III. Recommended Follow-up (if any):

002895-1001

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE
TREASURY DEPARTMENT

[Handwritten initials and signatures]

ORIGIN **Field (Dallas)** OFFICE **Dallas, Texas** FILE NO. **CO-2-34,930**

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| TYPE OF CASE Protective Research | STATUS Continued | TITLE OR CAPTION Assassination of President Kennedy |
| INVESTIGATION MADE AT Dallas, Texas | PERIOD COVERED 11-24-63 | Jack Leon Ruby -- slayer of Lee Harvey Oswald, charged with murder of President Kennedy |
| INVESTIGATION MADE BY SAIC Forrest V. Sorrels | | |

SYNOPSIS

Jack Ruby questioned by SAIC Forrest V. Sorrels shortly after Ruby shot Lee Harvey Oswald in basement of police station, Dallas, Texas, about 11:20 A.M., Nov. 24, 1963.

DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

On the morning of November 24, 1963, Inspector Tom Kelley and I were in the office of Assistant Chief of Police Charles Batchelor on the third floor of the City Hall, Dallas, Texas, shortly after 11 A.M. We observed the crowd across the street on Commerce Street south of the City Hall. Some twenty or thirty minutes later we heard that Lee Harvey Oswald had been shot by Jack Ruby, night club operator. Inspector Kelley and I went to the basement of the city hall where we heard that Oswald had been shot and I observed Oswald on the floor of the jail office and someone appeared to be administering artificial respiration. I then went to a nearby phone and called Deputy Chief Paul Paterni in Washington and informed him in re to the above.

I then went to office of Capt. Will Fritz, Homicide Bureau, but found that he was not there. I made inquiries as to whereabouts of Jack Ruby and was informed that he had been taken to the city jail. I then went to the jail elevator and after identifying myself was taken to the fifth floor of the jail and to a cell where Jack Ruby was standing with two uniformed officers, one on each side of him. Ruby only had on his shorts as his clothes had apparently been taken from him. I identified myself to Ruby and informed him that I would like to ask him some questions. He wanted to know if it was for newspapers or magazines and I told him it was not. He seemed to hesitate and I told him that I had seen Honest Joe (Rubin Goldstein, a well known Jewish pawn broker and used tools dealer on Elm Street) across the street just a short time before and that I knew a number of the Jewish

(continued)

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| DISTRIBUTION Chief Dallas | COPIES Orig. & 2 ccs | REPORT MADE BY SPECIAL AGENT | DATE 1007 |
| | 1 cc | APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE | DATE 2-3-64 1007 |

business men in the city and he stated that that was good enough for him and what was it I wanted to know.

Ruby, in answer to my questions, stated that his name is Jack Ruby and that his last name was originally Rubenstein; that he was in the entertainment business, operating the Carousel Club (1312 $\frac{1}{2}$ Commerce Street) and the Vegas Club, (3508 Oak Lawn), and that he lived at 223 S. Ewing St., Apt. 207, Dallas, Texas.

Ruby was then asked the question: "Jack, why?" To this question he replied that on the morning that President Kennedy was assassinated that he had been to the newspaper office (Dallas Morning News) and put an advertisement for his business, and that when he heard that the President had been shot that he had cancelled the ad and that his business had been closed for three days; that when he read an article about Mrs. Kennedy having to come to Dallas for the trial he thought why should she be brought down here and have to go through the ordeal on account of that no good ----- (Oswald); that he had seen about a letter to little Caroline (Kennedy); that he had been to the Synagogue on Friday night (Nov. 22, 1963) and heard an eulogy on President Kennedy; that his sister, who had recently had an operation, had been hysterical, and that he guessed he had worked himself up to a state of insanity to where he just had to do what he had done, and that he guessed he felt that he had "to show the world that a Jew had guts". He also stated that he was afraid that he (Oswald) might not get just punishment as he had known instances where just punishment had not been given.

Ruby stated that he had been a labor organizer years ago. When asked if he had ever been convicted of a felony he replied that he had not. He stated that he had been arrested and taken before a Justice of the Peace in 1954 and was released (investigation of violation of State Liquor Laws).

When Ruby was asked why he had the gun (with which he shot Oswald) he stated that he usually carried a gun as he often carried large amount of money taken in his business.

In answer to questions concerning his parents, he stated that his father is Joseph Rubenstein, born in Russia and that his mother is deceased and that she was born in Poland. He stated that his civil attorney is Stanley Kaufman.

Ruby was asked the specific question as to whether or not anyone else was involved in this case and he stated that there was not and that he acted alone and that he had not known Oswald before.

Ruby stated that he had very high regard for the Dallas Police Department and that they all knew him (or some similar remark). There were some detectives standing in back of me when I was questioning Ruby. I do not recall that I asked him how he got down in the basement where he shot Oswald. That question may have been asked by one of the detectives and he may have stated that he came down the ramp. This I do not recall for sure as my main interest at the time was to get to Ruby as soon as possible for the purpose of determining if he was involved with others and if he knew or had any connection with Oswald.

Later on, at about 3:15 PM, on Nov. 24, 1963, I was in Capt. Fritz's office where Ruby was being questioned by Capt. Fritz at which time, in answer to questions, he stated he might get attorneys Tom Howard, Fred Bruner, Stanley Kaufman, civil attorney, Jim Arnton or C. A. Drobey to represent him; that he had his name

legally changed in Dallas from Rubenstein to Ruby; that the revolver (Colt 2 inch barrel, .38 Cal., serial #2744-LW) had been purchased by him from Ray on Singleton (Ray's Hardware & Sporting Goods, 730 Singleton, Dallas, Texas) about three years ago. (NOTE: the above described revolver is equipped with a hammer guard). He stated that his room-mate is George Senator. He stated that he had come into the basement of the police station from the Main Street ramp; that he felt that Oswald was a "red" and that he was alone; that he saw him (Oswald) in show-up room and that he knew who he was going for.

Ruby stated that he didn't want to be a martyr and that it was a build-up of grievance. (Ruby told me when I talked to him in the jail cell that he had been grieving ever since the President had been shot). He stated that he had closed both of his clubs, the Vegas at 3508 Oak Lawn and the Carousel at 1312 $\frac{1}{2}$ Commerce Street; that he had never seen Oswald before; that he, Ruby, had at one time been in the mail order business, that he had been a labor organizer in Chicago; that he has a fondness for the police department and that when officer Slick had gotten killed sometime ago that he grieved about it; that Saturday night he had driven around and that people were in clubs laughing and no one seemed to be in mourning; that he saw eulogies of President Kennedy on TV and that he has seen President Kennedy's brother Bobby on TV; that he felt that all this had created a moment of insanity; that he had read about the letter someone sent to "Little Carolyn"; that he knows the Police Department is wonderful and that his heart is with the Police Department and that he had hopes that if ever there was an opportunity for participation in police battle that he could be a part of it with them.

Ruby further stated that his mother and dad were separated for 25 years; that he owes "Uncle Sam" a big piece of money (income tax); that he loves the city (Dallas); that his sister was operated on recently and she was hysterical about the President being killed; that he went to the Synagogue Friday night (Nov. 22nd); that he went over where the wreaths were where President was shot; and that he wants Captain Fritz to not hate him.

He further stated that in Chicago when he was with the union that one of his dear friends was killed and that he had come to place where it happened; that Leon Cook was the man; that he, Ruby, was so upset about this that his mother told him to leave; that man named Martin is one that killed Cook and that Martin was political and had affiliations and got out of it.

When questioned as to what union he, Ruby, was with he stated that it was the Scrap Iron & Junk Dealers Association. Ruby stated that his politics are Democratic but that he votes for the man. He stated that he has brothers Samuel Ruby, who services washeterias in Dallas, Earl Ruby, who operates a cleaning plant in Detroit, Michigan, and Hyman Rubenstein, a salesman, in Chicago.

Ruby stated that he would not think of committing a felony; that he has a high regard for the police and that he had called Detective Sims and wanted to bring them sandwiches as he knew they were having a tough time but was informed that they were all right and didn't need them; that he was trying to locate some of the TV people to give them to and that was when he went to the show-up room and that when he went there he saw Oswald and that was first time he had ever seen anyone like that; that there was no one else but him (Ruby) involved in this case. He refused to answer some of the questions asked him by Capt. Fritz and at one time asked Capt. Fritz if he didn't think he (Ruby) would make a good actor.

Ruby stated that after his friend Leon Cook was killed that he took Cook's middle name "Leon" for his own middle name.

When Ruby was questioned by me in the jail cell he appeared to be somewhat emotionally upset but gave prompt answers to the questions asked him. He seemed more composed when he was questioned in Captain Fritz's office and gave quick answers to questions put to him. In response to some questions he would very quickly reply "I will not answer that".

DISPOSITION

This case remains pending in the Dallas District.

S

1007

Memorandum

U. S. Secret Service



DATE: May 19, 1964

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

TO : Chief
Attn.: Inspector Kelley

FROM : SAIC Sorrels, Dallas

SUBJECT: Cellar, Coffee House, Fort Worth, Texas

Reference is made to LD phone call this date from Inspector Kelley wherein he instructed that it be determined whether or not customers of the Cellar, an all night coffee house in Fort Worth, Texas, are permitted to bring their own liquor to this place, and to also ascertain if there are any signs posted in the place regarding alcoholic beverages.

On 5-19-64 contacted by phone Mr. W. A. Phillips in charge of the Texas Liquor Control Board, Fort Worth, Texas, who stated it is permissible for patrons visiting night clubs, restaurants, etc., to take their own liquor and drink it as these places, up to 12:15 A. M. on weekdays and 1:15 A. M. on Sundays. Mr. Phillips stated that no liquor is served by the Cellar employees as this place does not have a license to sell intoxicating beverages. Mr. Phillips stated that the Cellar does sell imitation drinks, but that such drinks are not considered as alcoholic beverages because the alcoholic content is too low. Mr. Phillips states that he sends undercover investigators to the Cellar from time to time to obtain samples of mixed drinks sold by the Cellar, but that so far he has not found that these imitation mixed drinks contain even the minimum requirements of alcohol for them to be classed as alcoholic beverages. Mr. Phillips stated that they also check this place to see if there are any minors who are drinking alcoholic beverages, but that they have not found any violations so far.

On 5-19-64 contacted by phone Pat Kirkwood who is the owner of the Cellar who again stated that they do not sell any drinks containing alcohol, other than the alcohol which is contained in the flavoring used in mixing the imitation cocktails, etc. He stated that customers are permitted to bring their own liquor and that they sell the setups to the customers. He stated that no customers are permitted to drink alcoholic beverages brought by themselves after 12:15 A. M. weekdays and 1:15 A. M. on Sundays; that at 5 minutes to 12 each night except Sunday mornings which would be at 5 minutes to 1 o'clock, that an announcement is made over the loud speaker system that it is "bottle time" which means that anyone having a bottle of liquor will have to take it to their cars or else check it at the cash register and pick it up when they leave the place, and that under no circumstances would he permit drinking of alcoholic beverages after the curfew time as to do so would mean that his place would be closed. He also stated that his employees are all instructed to keep a careful watch as to underage customers drinking liquor and that they do not permit them to do so in his establishment. He stated that the package stores close at 10 P. M. each night, and that usually there is an announcement made about 9:30 P. M. or shortly thereafter that liquor stores close at 10 P. M. and that anyone wanting to get a bottle should do so.

-2-

Pat Kirkwood stated that he does not have any signs on the walls of his place regarding alcoholic beverages as it is known that they are not permitted to sell alcoholic beverages in his place of business.

FVS:LR

COMMISSION EXHIBIT 1020-Continued

Mr. J. Lee F
General Court
President's
Assassina
200 Maryland
Washington,

Dear Mr. Ray

Attache

dealing with

the Dallas

March 24, 19

Attachment

FIELD OFFICE -- Dallas, Texas.
 SAIC -- Forrest V. Sorrels
 DATE -- November 30, 1963

On November 4, 1963, phone call was received from SAIC Gerald A. Behn, White House Detail, stating that the Trade Mart had been suggested for the luncheon place for The President on the proposed visit to Dallas about November 21st, but that it was apparently not as good as the Woman's Building at the State Fair Grounds; that the Trade Mart had about sixty entrances and six cat walks; that these places should be inspected and that he be notified thereto.

Special Agent Robert A. Stuart and I then proceeded to the Trade Mart Building, 2100 Stemmons Freeway, then to Market Hall, just across Industrial Blvd., from the Trade Mart, and then to the Woman's Bldg., Fair Park.

Then returned to the office and telephoned SAIC Behn and informed him that the Trade Mart did pose security problems due to the fact that there were three floors above the courtyard where the luncheon would have to be held, each floor having balconies on all four sides and two suspended bridges or cat-walks on each floor, and that there were many entrances on each floor.

SAIC Behn was informed that Market Hall, which has one hundred and seven thousand feet without any columns or pillars would be satisfactory security wise, but that it was not available on the date in question. It was further stated that the Woman's Bldg. offered no problems as to security, but that it had many small supporting beams, low ceiling and somewhat unsightly.

On November 13, 1963, accompanied Special Agent Winston G. Lawson and Mr. Jack Puterbaugh to office of Mr. A. W. Cullum, President of Chamber of Commerce, then went to view the Trade Mart and then the Woman's Building, State Fair Grounds. We also went to office of Mr. Felix McKnight, Editor of the Dallas Times Herald. Also accompanied SA Lawson to Love Field where we met Aviation Director Coker and Asst. Aviation Director McGready and examined proposed area for spotting the planes of The President, The Vice-President and the press.

On November 14, 1963, accompanied SA Lawson to office of Mr. Eugene Locke, Attorney, Republic National Bank Bldg., for further discussion of plans for the visit. Also on this date again went to Love Field where another meeting was held with Mr. McGready and study made of proposed arrival point. We also drove the route that would possibly be selected in order to approximate the travel time that would be needed.

On November 15, 1963, we again went to the Trade Mart and conferred with Manager Cooper. We also went to office of Chief of Police Jesse Curry and conferred with him, informing him that luncheon site had not been definitely selected and that we would meet with him later. We then met Mr. Cullem and Mr. John Stemmons and Mr. Puterbaugh at the Baker Hotel. During the afternoon we attended a committee meeting at the Baker Hotel attended by Chamber of Commerce Manager Cullum, and others where general discussion was had relative to plans for the visit.

On November 16, 1963, accompanied SA Lawson to the Trade Mart where we met Manager W. E. Cooper and others relative to security, catering, etc. Also met with press representatives and others re location of cameras, etc.

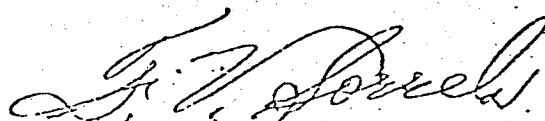
On November 18, 1963, accompanied SA Lawson to the Trade Mart where we met Mr. Wayne Hawkes of the White House Staff, Manager Cooper and members of his staff, and conferred re proposed arrangements of the luncheon. We then went to Love Field where we met Deputy Police Chief Lundy and Asst. Chief Bachelor and again looked over place where the planes would park. Asst. Aviation Manager McGready met us and was in on this discussion. We then clocked the motorcade route with the above named police officials from Love Field to the Trade Mart. We also discussed the area to be secured for parking of the motorcade vehicles.

On November 19, 1963, we met Asst. Chief Bachelor and Deputy Chief Stevenson at the Trade Mart and were also joined by Deputy Chief Burris of the Fire Department and Trade Mart Manager Cooper and his assistants and the details of the security of the building were discussed in detail.

On November 20, 1963, we proceeded to Love Field where we met Asst. Aviation Manager McGready and started negotiations to obtain additional space for the arrival and departure of the three planes. We then returned to the Trade Mart for further conference with Manager Cooper and others. Later we returned to Love Field and met Major Charles Medbal and Asst. Aviation Director McGready and final plans discussed.

On November 21, 1963, we attended meeting at the Bloom Advertising Agency, 512 South Akard St. We then went to Love Field where we met Deputy Police Chiefs Charles Bachelor and H. T. Fisher, Asst. Aviation Director McGready and Major Medbal and final security arrangements were made after additional space had been obtained. We then went to Continental Bus Company, enroute to office of Chief of Police Curry where we met with him and his command officers and again went over final security plans. It was agreed that Chief Curry would be coordinator at previous meeting and that he would call on the Dallas County Sheriff Bill Decker and Major Guy Smith, Texas Department of Public Safety, for additional personnel for security purposes in connection with the visit of The President to Dallas on November 22nd. Sheriff Decker and Major Smith had been contacted and agreed to this plan and offered their full support.

On the evening of November 21st, we met Special Agents accompanying The President's car and the follow up car and upon their arrival via cargo plans at Love Field, and through the cooperation of the office of the Aviation Director the cars were placed in the basement of the Administration Building with continuous police guard.


Special Agent in Charge.

STATEMENT OF FORREST V. SORRELS, SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, U. S. SECRET SERVICE,
DALLAS, TEXAS, NOVEMBER 28, 1963.

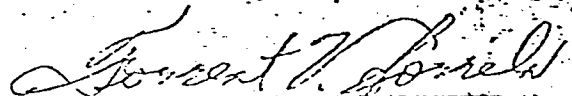
On November 22, 1963, in the Presidential Motorcade from Love Field through downtown Dallas, I was riding in the lead car which preceded the car of the President of the United States. In this car was Dallas County Sheriff Bill Decker, Chief of Police Jesse Curry of Dallas, who was driving the car, and Secret Service Special Agent Winston G. Lawson. Special Agent Lawson was sitting on the front seat by Chief of Police Curry. Sheriff Decker was sitting on the left side of the rear seat and I was sitting on the right side.

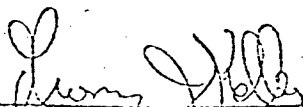
Remarks had been made, while we were on Main Street, about the huge crowds, and I remarked that they were even hanging out of windows of the buildings along the route.

When we turned right off of Main Street to Houston Street, I noted that there were several windows open in a building just north of Main Street where Elm Street crosses, this being the Texas Schoolbook Depository, 411 Elm Street. I noticed that there were some people looking out of the windows, but did not note any other activity.

We made the left hand turn onto Elm Street and were proceeding in the direction of the underpass enroute to Stemmons Freeway. When the lead car was approximately one half of the distance from the intersection of Houston and Elm Streets to the first underpass, an announcement had been made over the radio for those at the Trade Mart that the Motorcade was about five minutes away. We were due at the Trade Mart at 12:30 P. M. Just a moment before the five minute arrival radio announcement was made I had remarked that we were not going to be over about five minutes late as it was then approximately 12:30 P. M.

When we were at a point approximately three fourths of the distance between the Houston and Elm Street intersections and the first underpass, I heard what sounded like a rifle shot, and said "What's that?", as I turned to my right to look back in the direction of the terrace and the Texas Schoolbook Depository Building. When I heard two more shots I said, "let's get out of here". I looked towards the top of the terrace to my right as the sound of the shots seemed to come from that direction. I noted that the President's car had accelerated its speed and was fast closing the gap between us. A motorcycle pulled up alongside of the car and Chief Curry yelled "Is anybody hurt?", to which the officer replied in the affirmative, and Chief Curry immediately broadcast to surround the building. By that time we had gotten just about under the underpass when the President's car pulled up alongside, and at that time Chief Curry's car had started to pick up speed, and someone yelled to get to the nearest hospital, and Chief Curry broadcast for the hospital to be ready. We then proceeded as fast as possible to the hospital and as soon as the President, Vice President, and Governor Connally were inside the hospital I immediately left in a police car for the Texas Schoolbook Depository Building.


Forrest V. Sorrels



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

ROUGH DRAFT

DD2603

TO : Mr. Rankin

DATE: March 23, 1964

FROM : Mr. Griffin and Mr. Hubert

SUBJECT: Activities of Dallas on Sunday, March 22, 1964.

At approximately 8:00 p.m., we met with Special Agent Forrest P. Sorrels in Mr. Hubert's room at the Adolphus Hotel, discussed various aspects of our experiences in Dallas to date, and his own general views on the situation in Dallas. Sorrels repeated to us his account of his first interview with Ruby on November 24. He was unwilling to state that he believed that Ruby was telling the truth in talking to him. We discussed generally the attitude of the Dallas Police Department, and Mr. Sorrels was emphatic in affirming his belief that all of the top officers of the Dallas Police Department were honest and desirous of learning the truth concerning Ruby's means of entry to the Police station. He said that it is the general feeling among the officers with whom he has come in contact that Ruby did not gain entrance as he claimed by coming down the Main Street ramp when Pierce's car drove out. He also stated that he believed Chief Curry and the other top officers would readily acknowledge the mistakes they had made in handling the transfer of Oswald. Mr. Sorrels stressed the extreme pressures that were placed upon the Police Department by members of the press, and the extent to which the interrogation and handling of Oswald by the Police Department was hampered by the activities of the news media. Sorrels stated that he personally told Chief Curry after he learned that Curry had announced to the press the 10 o'clock movement time that he would move Oswald at an unannounced time during the evening. Curry stated to Sorrels that he did not want to cause hard feelings with the press and would stick to the 10 o'clock departure time. However, Sorrels stated that it was understood by all that 10 o'clock was not the exact time of movement, but that it was the earliest Oswald would be moved. Sorrels stated to me earlier in the afternoon that the exact movement of Oswald depended upon the time that Captain Fritz completed his questioning of Oswald. Sorrels stated that he was present during the latter part of the questioning of Oswald and that he was of the opinion that Oswald was beginning to loosen up. In fact, Sorrels stated that the questioning of Oswald on ~~Sunday~~ Sunday morning, November 25, was longer than he had expected because of Oswald's more cooperative attitude. On at least one occasion, Chief Curry entered the Homicide office and inquired of Fritz how long it would be before Oswald was moved, and Fritz indicated that they were having a successful session. Sorrels does not remember that anyone else except Chief Curry entered the office and, of course, he does not know whether Curry communicated Fritz' optimism to other members of the Police Department or members of the press.

Mr. Griffin and Mr. Sorrels talked privately while walking the streets of Dallas between 9:30 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. Sorrels seemed to want to speak

at length about his experiences in connection with the assassination of the President and murder of Oswald. It is Mr. Griffin's view that Mr. Sorrels will be an extremely cooperative witness and that he will frankly acknowledge the difficulties which the Secret Service encountered between November 22 and November 24. Sorrels is extremely disturbed about the failure of his office to give adequate protection to the President. Although he was not pressed on this matter in our conversation, he seemed to desire to assume almost personal responsibility for the events that occurred, and it is a matter of deep sadness to him. Although he tends to stress the futility of attempting to protect the President from snipers or in large crowds, his attitude seems so extremely fair and honest that I think he will welcome and truthfully appraise any constructive suggestions which members of the Commission may offer for the future protection of the President.

Mr. Sorrels also spoke with Mr. Griffin at length concerning relationships between the Federal Bureau of Investigation and both the Secret Service and the local Police Department. Again, he was not pressed on the subject; however, he made it clear he believed there was a certain amount of ill will between the Dallas Police Department and the Bureau during the trade immediately after the assassination of the President and that relationships between those two agencies had never been especially cordial even before that date. He emphasized also the marked change in the cooperation which his office has received from the Bureau since the assassination of President Kennedy on matters of protection as compared with their attitude prior to the assassination. He also commented on Special Agent Hosty. His characterization of Hosty seemed to indicate the rather brusque person who is both supercilious and distrustful with respect to others. Sorrels stated that Hosty told one of his agents that if questioned by the Commission concerning his failure to notify the Secret Service that Oswald was working in a building that was along the route the President's caravan would take, Hosty would state that he was so busy he never read the newspapers and did not know where the caravan would travel. Mr. Griffin asked Mr. Sorrels if it was his understanding that Hosty would indicate that the story he would give the Commission was a fabrication and Mr. Sorrels indicated that he understood that it could be Hosty's attitude. He also indicated that he and perhaps others believed that if there were to be a fall guy within the Bureau, it would be Hosty.

Beginning at about 10 a.m., Mr. Griffin, Mr. Hubert, and SA John Joe Howlett visited the area between 1026 N. Beckley and 223 South Ewing Street. It was noted that the 1000 block on North Beckley begins at 5th Street. This may explain the taxi driver's notation that he let Oswald out of his cab in the 500 block. The cab driver may have been confusing 5th Street with the 500 block. We noted in the 1026 North Beckley area that there is an Enco Service Station directly across the street from that address and that diagonally across Zangs Boulevard is a Sleight Sped Wash-Dry establishment. We further noted that the distance from 1026 North Beckley Street to the nearest bus stop on Marsalis via 5th Street was one-half mile. We observed also that although the spot at which Tippett was shot is closer to Ruby's residence via Patton Street than 10th Street, the 10th Street route would probably

be the most logical one for a person who was not acquainted with the shortcuts in the neighborhood, or who did not have a map with him. We also noted that there is a Marsalis bus stop at 10th Street.

We also visited the area of the Texas School Book Depository and noted in particular that Houston Street is barricaded on the North side of the Texas School Book Depository. Mr. Howlett~~g~~ indicated that this condition existed on November 22. The area to the North of the Texas School Book Depository consists of a Railroad Yard and various warehouse facilities.

We toured the Police and Court Building with Captain Nichols from about 1:15 p.m. til about 3:15 p.m. Nichols was extremely cooperative and gave the impression of sincerely wanting to find the truth, since he used his own initiative to find places where Ruby might have entered the building. From about 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Mr. Griffin and Mr. Howlett~~g~~ toured Irving, Texas, and the Oak Lawn section of Dallas. Irving was visited to view the relationship between the home of Bill Stevens and Mrs. Paine. The houses are not sufficiently close together to suggest that Stevens would necessarily have been aware of the Oswalds. However, Stevens was not employed during the daytime, or if he were particularly friendly with other neighbors in the area it may well have been that he would have known of Oswald. It may be significant that Stevens home had a "For Sale" sign on it when we saw it. It should also be noted that the Carousél Club was closed on Saturday, March 21, and Sunday, March 22. If the Vegas Club was open on Sunday, March 22, there was no particular activity about it.

It was particularly noted that the Vegas Club, Phil's Delicatessen, and the Lucas B & B are within 100 yards of each other. Eva Grant's house is no more than three blocks from the Vegas Club.

The home of Maj. General Edwin Walker was noted to be on the street running parallel to Oak Lawn on block West. Travel distance from the Vegas Club to the Walker residence would be at least one-half mile, probably less. Also, the cavalcade of President Kennedy passed one block from the Vegas Club going East on Lemmon.

Mr. Howlett~~g~~ and Mr. Griffin also examined the spot where Ruby photographed the "Impeach Earl Warren" sign. This sign is located on the Southwest corner of Ross and Central Expressway not far from the central business district of town. The sign is approximately 3-1/2 feet high and 5 or 6 ft. long. It is on a small green metal stander and is not particularly conspicuous. It can only be seen by one traveling South on Central Expressway or East on Ross. The language "Impeach Earl Warren" and the word "write" appear to be part of a commercially printed and mass distributed poster. The notation "Post Office Box 1757" is obviously ^{hand} painted on the sign at the bottom of the sign in small blue letters with Mr. Hill's name and address. Since this

bottom portion had been partially obliterated, it was not possible to read his first name or the complete address, nor was it possible to determine whether or not Mr. Hill's telephone number was on the sign. Mr. Howlette stated that it was his understanding that this was not the original sign that appeared at this spot, but was identical to it. He said the original sign had been painted over or in some way disturbed after Oswald was killed and that this was a new poster. The stander which bore the "Impeach Earl Warren" poster also had stickers on it which said "Serve America - Join the John Birch Society".

Mr. Howlette and Mr. Griffin also visited the vicinity of Radio Station KLIF. KLIF is approximately 1 block South of the Police and Courts Building on Jackson. Agent Howlette informed Mr. Griffin that Gordon McLendon, a friend of Jack Ruby's and the manager of KLIF, is now a candidate for the Democratic nomination for the United States Senate. SA Sorrels told Mr. Griffin that a woman had shot at Mr. McLendon recently as he was boarding a plane at Dallas Love Field.

Mr. Howlette and Mr. Griffin also visited the vicinity of the Ritz Delicatessen, which is approximately 1 block from the Carousel Club.

The Carousel is located on the corner of Field and Commerce, diagonally across the street to the North from the Adolphus Hotel and about three doors from the ~~Carousel Club~~ *side of*

the street

Carousel Club

PROCEDURE
KENNEDY SUBCOMMITTEE HEARINGS

1. The Chairman should recognize Elizabeth Berning, Clerk of the Committee, to read for the record those Members who are officially designated to be on the Subcommittee today, pursuant to Committee Rule 12.3.

2. The hearing should go into Executive Session.

There should be a motion:

that today's hearing and one subsequent day of hearing be held in Executive Session since on the basis of information obtained by the Committee, the Committee believes the evidence or testimony may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate people, and consequently Section 2(K) (5) of Rule 11 of the Rules of the House and Committee Rule 3.3 (5), require such hearings be in Executive Session.

There must be three Members present to vote on this motion.

A rollcall vote should be taken.

3. The Chairman should swear the witness at this time. He should state that he understands a copy of our Rules have already been given to the witness. He should ask the witness if this is true. The Chairman should

state that the witness is appearing pursuant to subpoena.

4. The Chairman should give a brief statement concerning the subject of the investigation. He should state that House Resolution 222 mandates the Committee

"to conduct a full and complete investigation and study of the circumstances surrounding the assassination and death of President John F. Kennedy including determining whether the existing laws of the United States concerning the protection of the President and the investigatory jurisdiction and capability of agencies and departments are adequate in their provisions and enforcement, and whether there was full disclosure of evidence and information among agencies and departments of the United States Government, and whether any evidence or information not in the possession of an agency or department would have been of assistance in investigating the assassination, and why such information was not provided or collected by that agency or department, . . . and to make recommendations to the House . . . if the Select Committee deems it appropriate for the amendment

of existing legislation or the enactment of new legislation.

5. The questioning of the witness may now proceed.

Fifth Amendment

6. If the witness takes the Fifth Amendment to a question, and the Committee desires to immunize the witness, the Chairman should give the witness a copy of Judge Bryant's order immunizing the witness and compelling testimony from him. The witness should now be directed to answer the question that was propounded.

If the Witness Continues to Object

7. Pursuant to Committee Rule 3.5, any objection of the witness or witness' counsel must be specifically ruled upon by the Chairman. Should the witness object on the grounds of pertinency, he should be given a brief explanation of the pertinency of the question and then be directed to answer it.

8. At the conclusion of the questioning of the witness, pursuant to Rule 3.6 of the Committee, the Chairman should offer the witness and/or his counsel five minutes to explain or amplify the witness' testimony.
9. The witness should be informed that he is under the continuing subpoena of the Committee, and subject to the call of the Chair at a future date.

BIOGRAPHY

James Wilcott

James Wilcott, age 47, is a former finance officer for the Central Intelligence Agency. He served with the CIA in this capacity for a nine year period beginning in 1957. From 1947 to 1951, Mr. Wilcott served in the U. S. Army. After his discharge from the Army, he attended college for two years and then business school in Syracuse, New York.

Mr. Wilcott's first three years with the CIA were spent at headquarters. Following this three year period, he was transferred to the CIA Tokyo Station where he remained for four years. Mr. Wilcott was serving at the Tokyo Station as a cash disbursement officer at the time of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy on November 22, 1963.

Following his tour of duty in Tokyo, he was reassigned to Agency headquarters for a one year period. Mr. Wilcott then spent the next year, his final year as a CIA employee, at the Miami Station. In April 1966, he resigned from the CIA.

Mr. Wilcott presently resides with his wife Elsie, a former CIA secretarial employee, at 2761 Atlantic Street, Concord, California. He is now an electronics technician for the Badger Meter Company, located in Richmond, California.

PREVIOUS STATEMENTS BY JAMES WILCOTT

I. Select Committee Interview of James Wilcott, conducted January 28, 1978, at the Wilcott residence.

Mr. Wilcott's interview included discussion of his personal history, associations and positions held as a CIA employee, alleged CIA and FBI harassment of Wilcott following his resignation from the Agency, and Wilcott's present belief that Lee Harvey Oswald was a CIA agent at the time of President John F. Kennedy's assassination.

From June 1960 to May 1964, Wilcott was stationed with the CIA in Tokyo, Japan. It is his contention that during the hours of shock following the assassination, he was informed by a CIA case officer that Lee Harvey Oswald was a CIA agent. Wilcott identified Jerry Fox, a CIA officer in the Soviet Russia (SR) Division of the Tokyo Station, as one person who specifically discussed the Oswald project with him.

Wilcott further contends that while stationed in Tokyo, he learned Lee Harvey Oswald's Agency cryptonym. When asked during the Select Committee interview whether he could recall the Oswald cryptonym, he stated he could not. Wilcott also contended that a Tokyo Station officer, in conversation with him, stated that Wilcott had disbursed funds for the alleged Oswald project. He could not recall during the interview the date or sum of money disbursed by him for the Oswald project nor could he identify the station officer who provided him with this information.

During the interview Wilcott was asked why, after

learning of the alleged Oswald connection to the CIA, he did not re-check the Tokyo Station disbursement records for evidence of the Oswald project. In response, he stated that he viewed the Oswald revelations with disinterest, merely as shop talk. He further explained that he did not contact any formal investigative bodies following the Kennedy assassination because he considered his information to be hearsay. He stated that such hearsay would not further any investigative purposes.

Wilcott also described certain record keeping and administrative procedures utilized at the CIA Tokyo Station.

In addition, Wilcott discussed his tour of duty at the CIA Miami Station. He described the general reluctance of those stationed in Miami to discuss the alleged Oswald connection. He did indicate his belief that the failed Bay of Pigs operation was linked to Oswald's fate and JFK's assassination. In addition, Wilcott described one Miami Station project designed to burn Cuban cane fields. He also detailed his direct participation in an Agency photo intelligence operation while he was stationed in Miami.

Wilcott described his growing disenchantment with and subsequent resignation from the Agency. He alleged specific instances of surveillance, harassment, and sabotage conducted against him by both the CIA and the FBI during the years 1967 to 1970.

II. James Wilcott's unpublished article, "The Kennedy Assassination", written during January 1977.

Wilcott's article provides additional background material and generally supports the position adopted by him during the Select Committee interview of January 28, 1978. The article recounts Wilcott's CIA tours of duty in Tokyo and Miami.

His scenario describes the political and emotional climate that existed at the Tokyo Station prior to and following the Kennedy assassination. He further describes the failed Bay of Pigs invasion and the growing mutual distrust between President Kennedy and high-level CIA officials.

Wilcott contends that Oswald became a CIA agent because the Agency possessed information personally damaging to Oswald. The information it possessed thereby gave the Agency a "handle" against Oswald allowing for his recruitment and use inside the Soviet Union.

OBJECTIVES

As James Wilcott's position with the CIA was that of a relatively low-level cash disbursement officer, it is unlikely that his personal knowledge will pertain to each of the objectives outlined below. Nevertheless, Wilcott might have some firsthand knowledge pertaining to Agency activities as well as secondhand information which might clarify matters of interest to the Committee.

- I. To determine whether Lee Harvey Oswald had an employee or agent relationship with the CIA.
 - A. To identify the purposes for which Lee Harvey Oswald might have been recruited by the Agency.
 - B. To determine the possible extent of Agency contact with LHO.
 - Persons who might have been connected with or have knowledge of the alleged Oswald recruitment and project.
 - C. To determine what, if any, use might have been made of Oswald by the Agency.
 1. Dates and nature of possible LHO activity for the Agency.
 2. Cryptonym that might have been used by Oswald.
 3. Agency station or stations through which Oswald might have been utilized.
 - D. To determine what might have been station-level Agency attitudes towards President Kennedy and his Administration.

1. Prior to the Bay of Pigs operation.
2. Following the Bay of Pigs operation.
3. At the time of President Kennedy's
assassination.

Objective II

- II. To develop general background and history regarding possible CIA administrative and financial procedures.
 - A. To identify possible filing methods and their purposes.
 - 1. For 201 files.
 - 2. For "black" operations.
 - B. To identify possible cash disbursement methods and their purposes.
 - 1. For project initiation.
 - 2. For project continuity.

GENERAL LINES OF INQUIRY

- A. Wilcott's personal history.
- B. Wilcott's employment history with the CIA.
 - 1. Positions held.
 - 2. Responsibilities and duties.
- C. Wilcott's tour of duty at the Tokyo Station.
 - 1. Position held.
 - 2. Responsibilities and duties.
 - 3. Identification of co-workers, Agency officers, and superiors.
 - 4. Circumstances leading to Wilcott's alleged discovery of the Oswald connection with the CIA.
 - a. Identification of persons alleging Oswald's connection.
 - b. Oswald's alleged cryptonym.
 - c. Possible cash disbursement procedures for the Oswald project.
 - d. Wilcott's scenario of the events leading up to and following President Kennedy's assassination.
 - 5. Finance office operations.
 - a. Filing methods and purposes.
 - b. Disbursement methods and purposes.

- D. Wilcott's Miami Station tour of duty.
 - 1. General operations of the Miami Station.
 - 2. Wilcott's description of the Miami Station's reaction to the allegation of an Oswald connection.
 - 3. The Bay of Pigs and anti-Castro connections.
- E. Wilcott's disenchantment with and resignation from the CIA.
 - 1. Alleged incidents of CIA and FBI surveillance, harassment and sabotage during the years 1967-1970.
 - 2. Wilcott's article "The Kennedy Assassination".